

FOR MATURE READER

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ANIME

S H O W E R

Special

2



COLOR
CALENDAR
INSIDE!





Anime Shower Special #2 December 1992

Published annually by
IANUS PUBLICATIONS
2360 de LaSalle Ave, Studio 211
Montreal, Qc., Canada
H1V 2L1
Tel.: (514) 899-5929
FAX: (514) 254-4981

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ISSN 1183-6873

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Tim Eldred
John Waltrip
Adam Warren
and all the artists

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Alex Racine

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Michel Gareau, Marketing

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PIN-UP 1992 CALENDAR/ CYBERSUIT ARKADYNE POSTER

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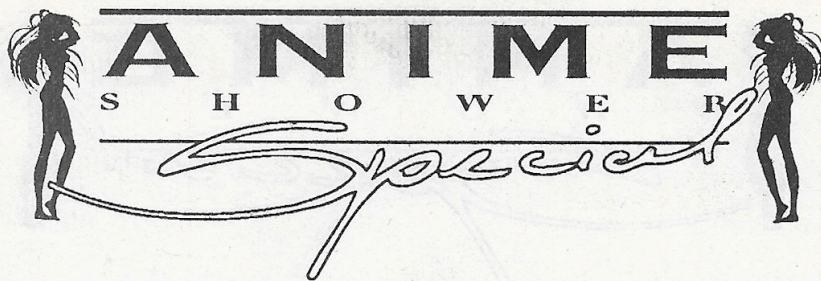
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PRESENTATION

Several of our readers are probably wondering what is the *Anime Shower Special*. It is mainly about shower scenes in Japanese animation, but it goes further than that. It not only displays shower scenes, but also nudity and eroticism. It takes examples from both anime and manga (Japanese comics). I can still see that there is a question mark on your face. Why? What's the purpose of this issue? Our objectives are to offer a nice and entertaining product, to make people think about the phenomenon of nudity in Japanese animation and about the censorship it generates. The purpose is mainly artistic. But Art exist to stimulate the mind...

Unfortunately, nudity in Art is a touchy subject and inevitably gives birth to controversy. Last year, our first installment of the *Anime Shower Special* was severely criticized because of this. We made our major point on the fact that violence was more easily tolerated in the U.S. than nudity and, strangely, we got very few reactions on that. One person agreed that American puritanism and the "banalisation" of violence by the media were to blame. Most of the reactions rather tended towards the fact that we were showing nude WOMEN.

The most interesting reactions were published in our *Protoculture Addicts* magazine. The *Anime Shower* was found to be "sexist and insulting" by some because it stripped women of their dignity and reduced them to "something less than human". It was also accused of being "crude and degrading". I do not intend to make a statement on feminism (because I believe in it) but some people have push their argumentation so far (maybe to get attention) that they have lost all perspective on the real situation. They tend to confuse a well-intentioned publication (like ours) with some sleazy magazines.

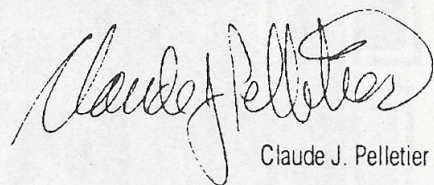
We were accused of a crime we didn't commit. We just wanted to make an honest statement about nudity and a stand against censorship. Nudity is natural and beautiful. If there was mostly women in the last issue (in fact there were two illustrations displaying men) it is **NOT** because we think that women are objects to be leered at or used. On the contrary, we have always promoted equality and mutual respect: if nudity was really considered normal and not an instrument of sexuality, the so-called "girlie mentality" couldn't exist. We displayed mostly women because the Japanese animation is displaying mostly women. It is not a choice but merely the representation of a reality. We did our best to present an artful product, handling the subject with taste and avoiding to link nudity with sexuality or violence. You will notice that this issue is displaying more men (almost everything we could find).

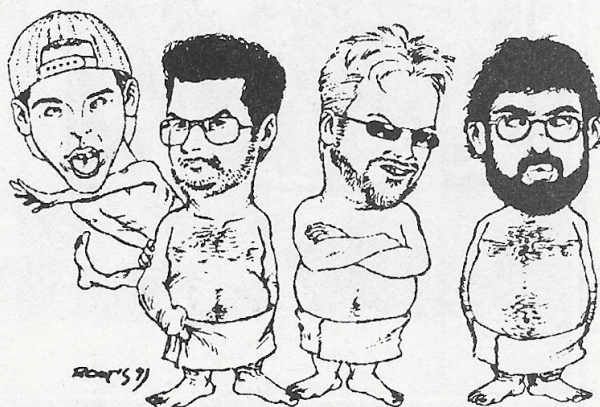
Anyway, we do not want here to make the apology of nudity in Japanese comics. We are only pointing out the existence of the phenomenon. Nudity has a diffused omnipresence in anime & manga because it is a part of the Japanese mentality. It could take its origin in the ancient art of woodblock prints, used to depict erotic scenes, but most probably both have been created by a determinism of the Japanese geo-social environment: promiscuity generated by the insular character of the territory made the acceptance of nudity a necessity. A constant exposition to nudity in public baths shared by both sexes gave it a natural character devoid of sexual meaning.

It is sad though that Japanese animation and comics often goes beyond this harmless, artful nudity or mild eroticism by associating it to sex, violence and even scatology. As Frederik L. Schodt mentioned (*Manga! Manga! The World of Japanese Comics*. New York, Kodansha, 1983. In chapter "Regulation versus Fantasy", pp. 120-137), those excesses take their origin in the sixties with the same realistic and taboo-smashing trend that gave birth to the underground comics in the U.S.. It was a kind of artistic rebellion against censorship of the past centuries. This led to animations with mild sex (like the *Cream Lemon* series), other with excessive violence (*Fist of the North Star*, *Violence Jack*), or a tasteless blend of both like in *Wandering Child*. But those are very popular. You should have seen the crowd in front of the General Product's booth at AnimeCon when they took out the adult comics!

Those excesses (particularly the depiction of High School students as object of sex) has restarted the debate on censorship (which is prohibited by the Japanese constitution). Nevertheless, obscenity is illegal according to Article 175 of the penal code (meaning that adult genitalia, pubic hair, and sexual intercourse should not be seen in comics) but, of course, this interdiction is more and more defied. The good side of this increasing freedom is a greater creativity, while the American comics seemed stuck in a creative ghetto by overregulation. The Japanese artists are limited only by the tolerance of their readership. They seem to have such a moral discipline that they never confuse their fantasy world with reality, and are not influenced by it. The Japanese society is still very conservative, quite unviolent and with an extremely low crime rate (including sex crimes). An example to follow? Not entirely since Japanese society is male-oriented and the status of woman still needs great improvement. Think about all this (*op. cit.*, p. 126-132; GROENSTEEN, Thierry. *L'Univers des Mangas*. Tournai, Casterman, 1991. p. 40).

One of our faithful reader has suggested that we feature ourselves, giving that way a more "revealing" look at the men behind lanus! Being unable to refuse a challenge, here is our staff: Alex, Clodjee, Pierre, and Martin. I hope you will enjoy our selection of "shower" scenes. This time, as color insert, we are offering a pin-up 1992 calendar doubled by a gorgeous poster of our new comic by Tim Eldred: *Cybersuit Arkadyne*. See you next year.


Claude J. Pelletier

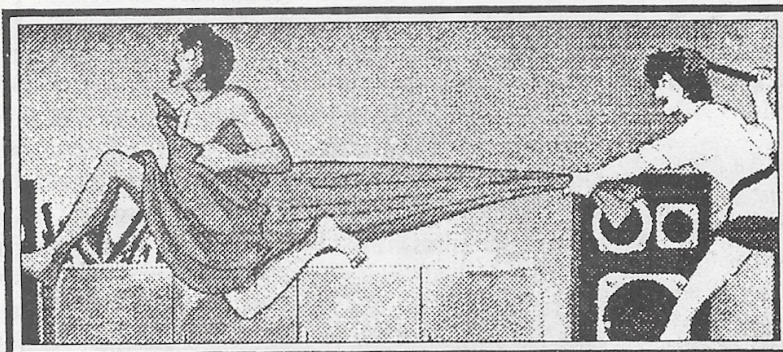


ANIME SHOWER

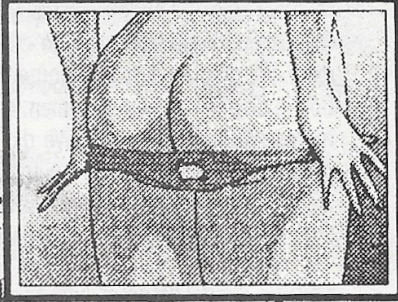
ANIME

S H O W E R

Special

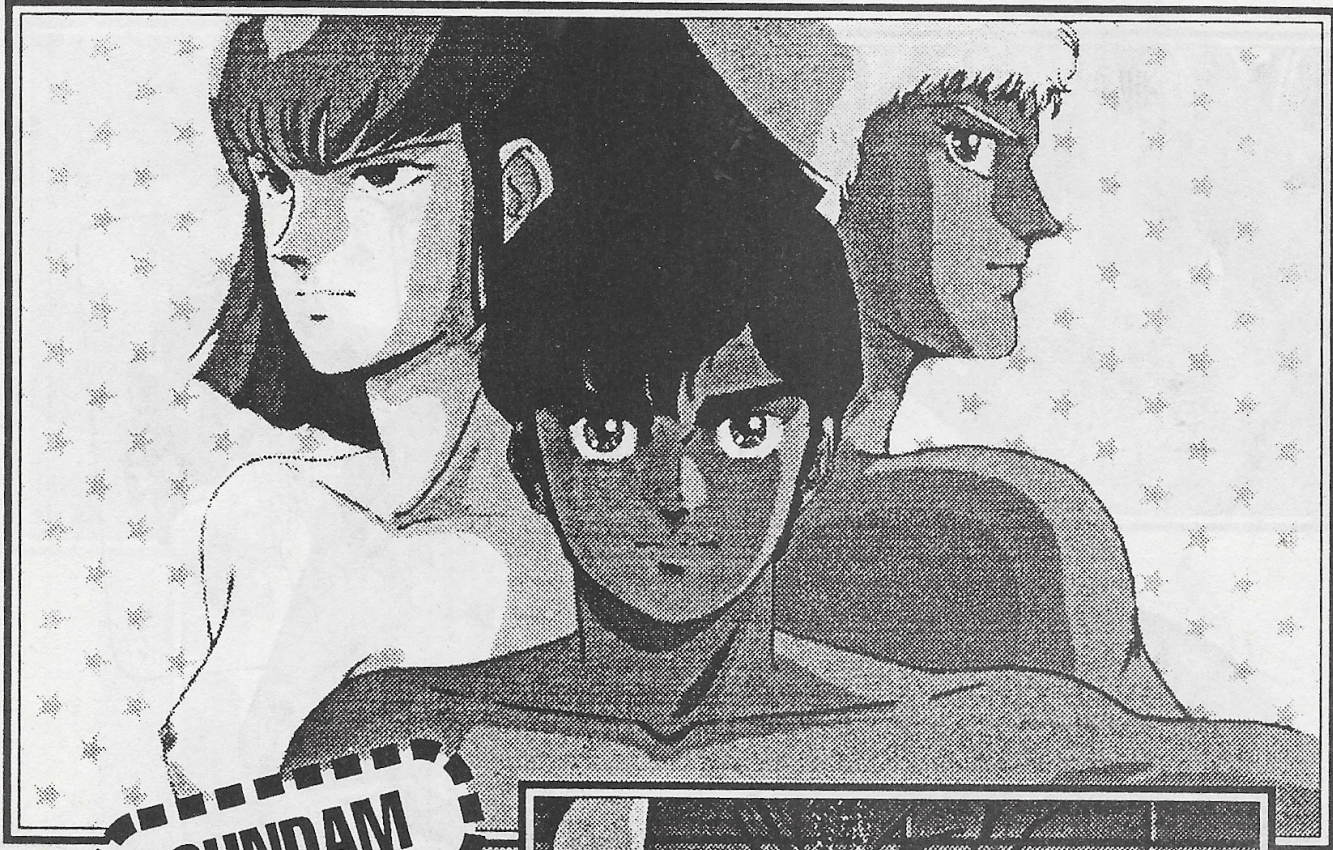


CITY HUNTER

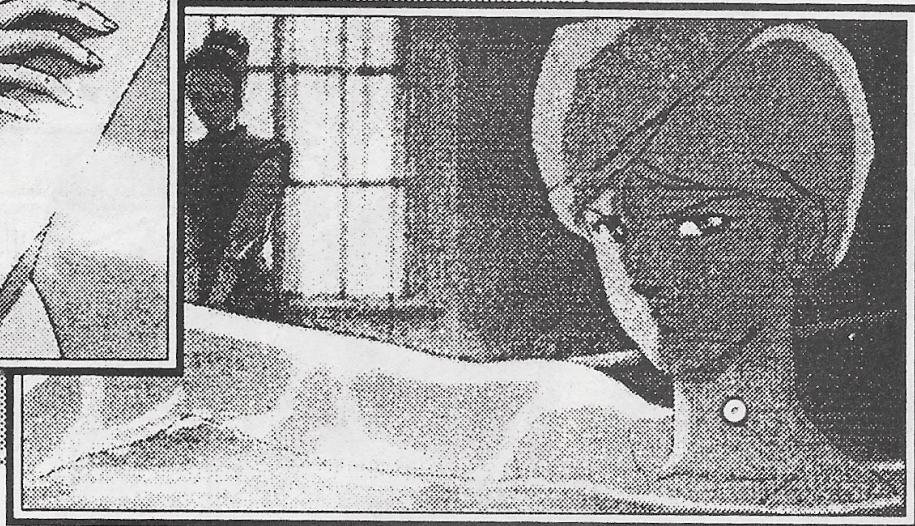
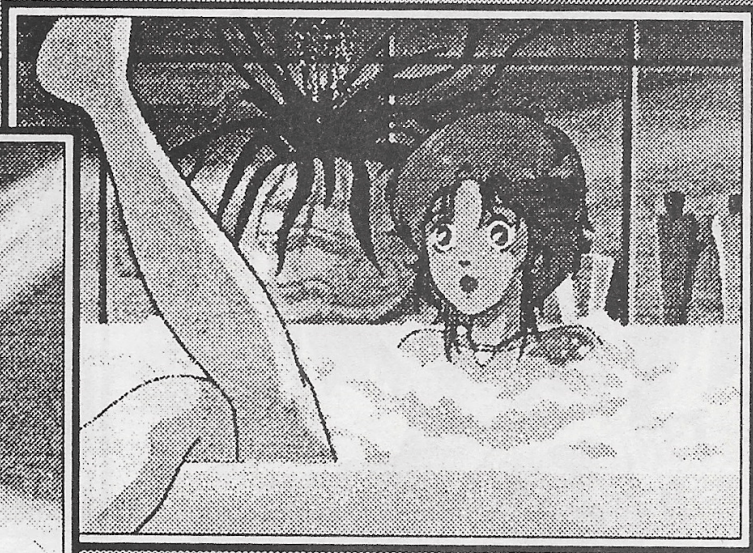
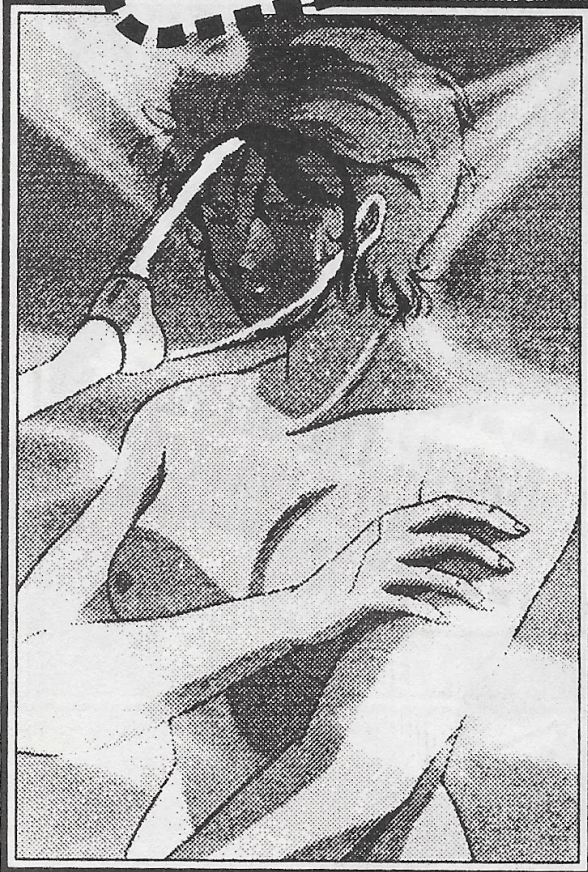


ANIME

ANIME
S H O W E R
Special



GUNDAM

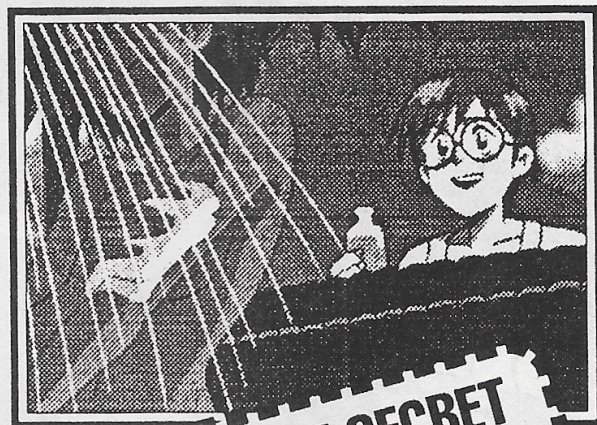
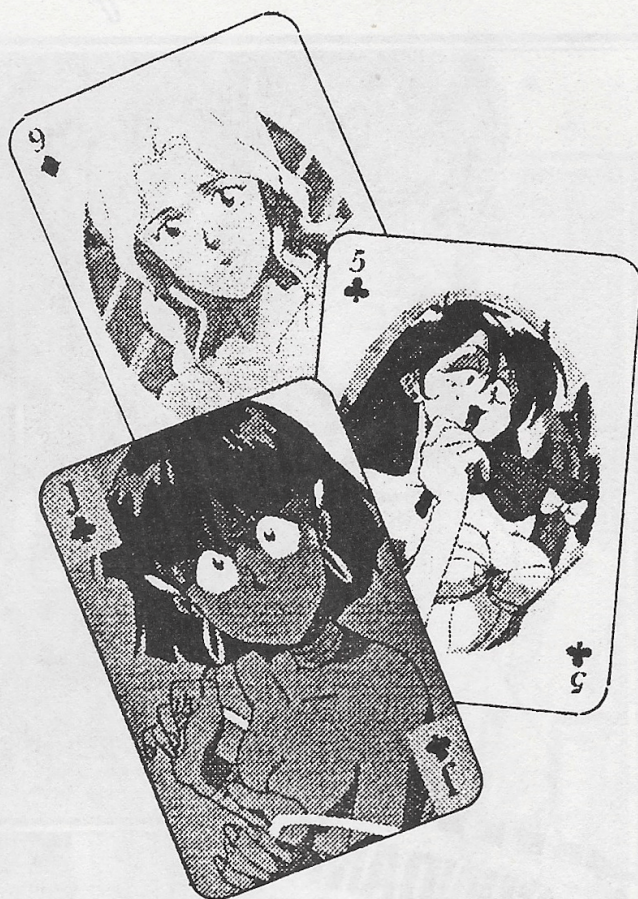
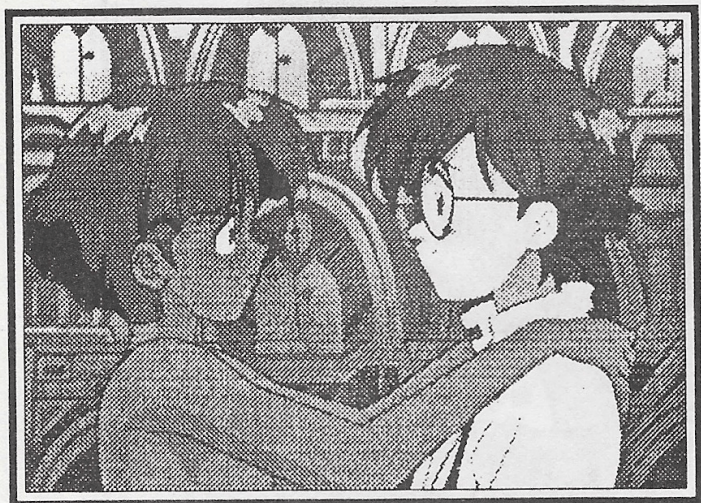


ANIME

ANIME

S H O W E R

Special



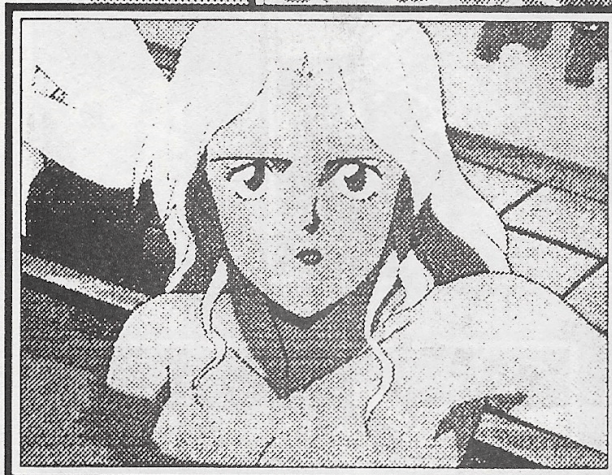
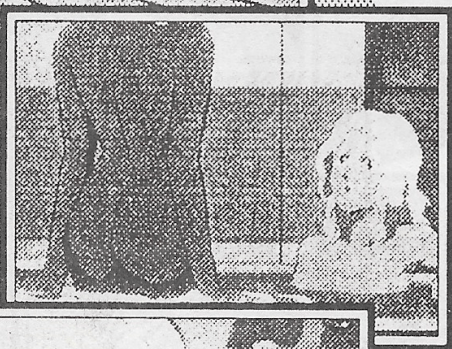
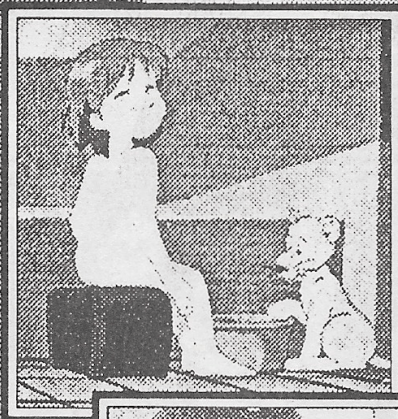
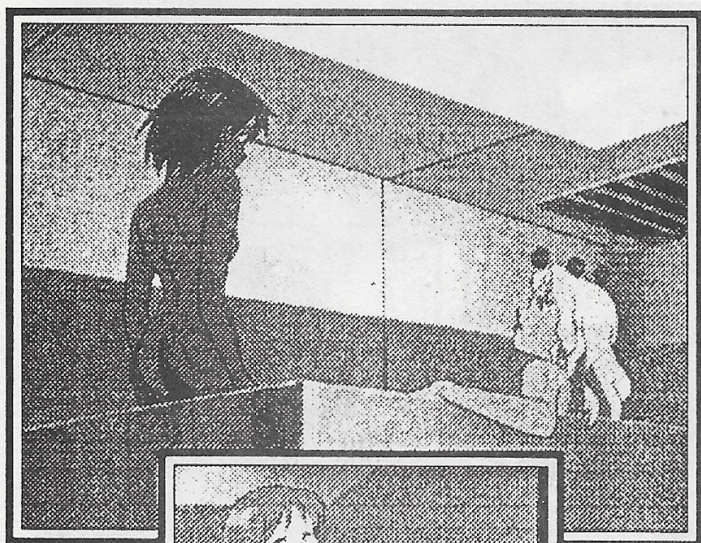
**NADIA: THE SECRET
OF BLUE WATER**

ANIME

ANIME

S H O W E R

Special



**NADIA: THE SECRET
OF BLUE WATER**

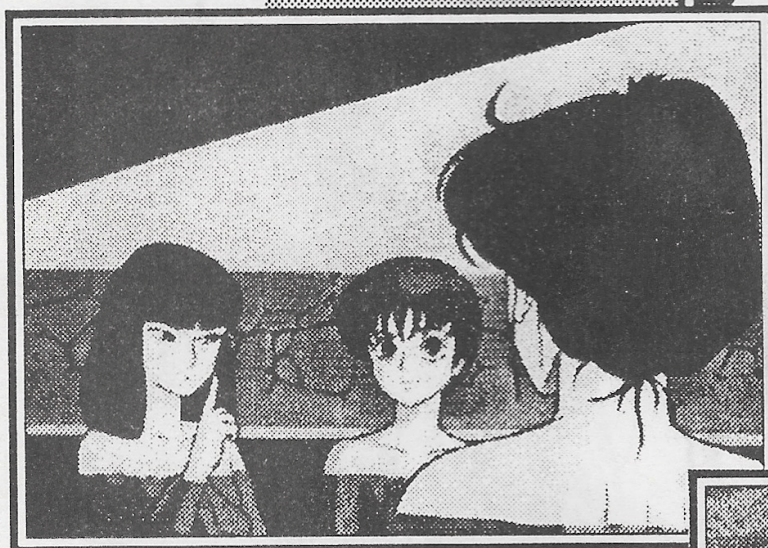
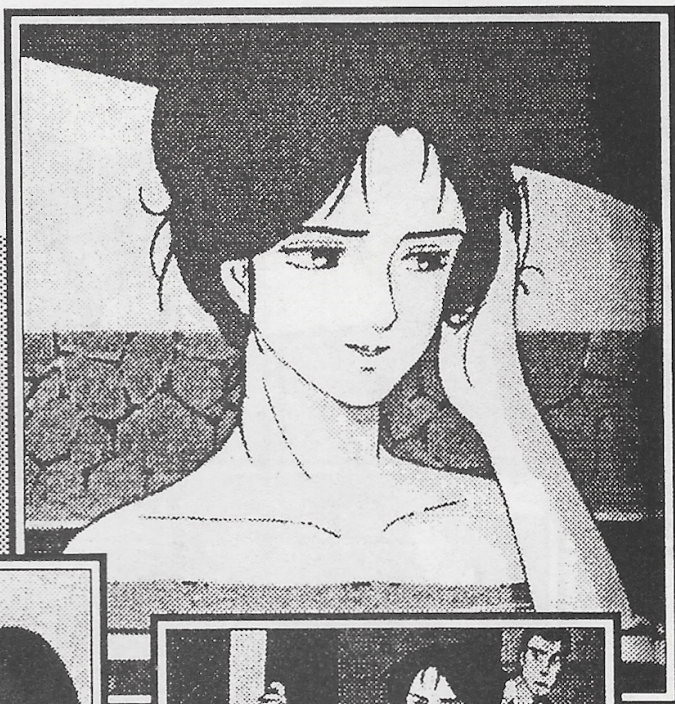
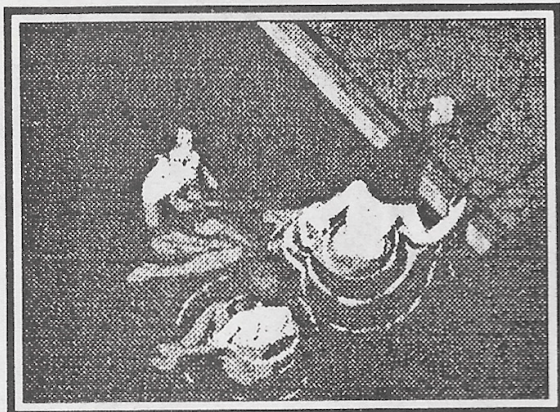


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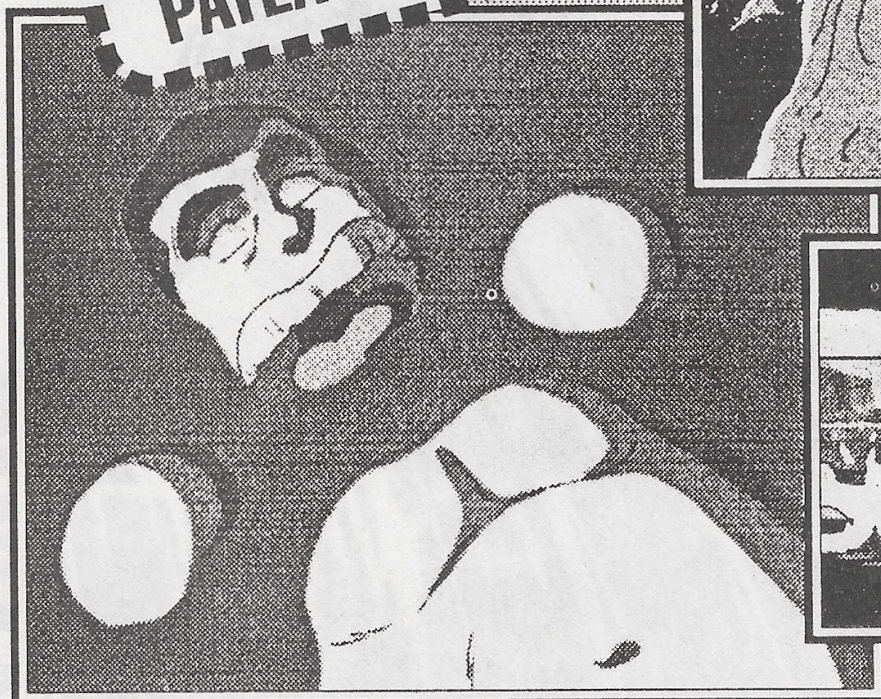
ANIME

S H O W E R

Special



PATLABOR

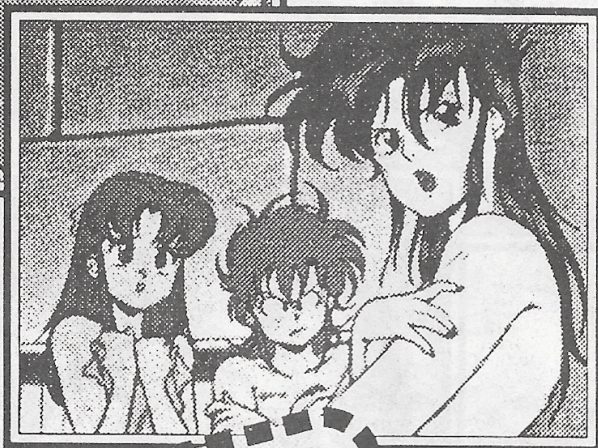


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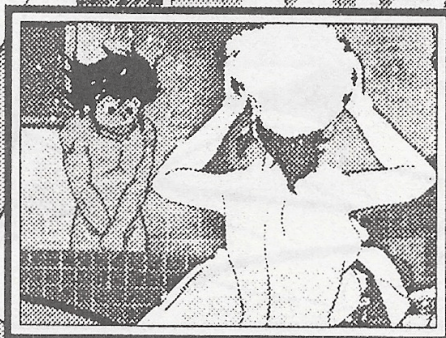
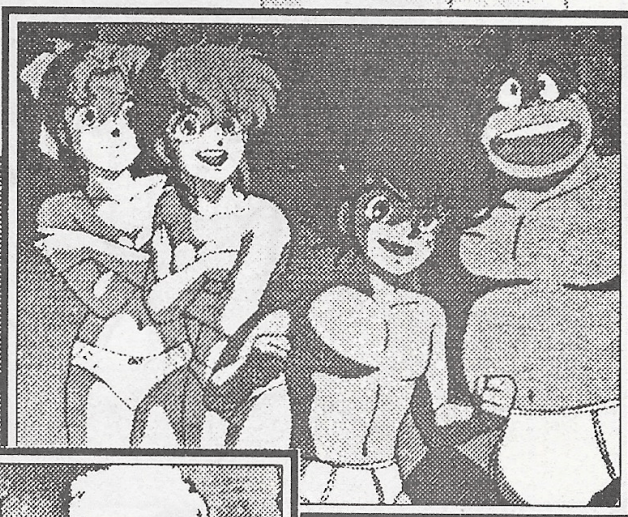
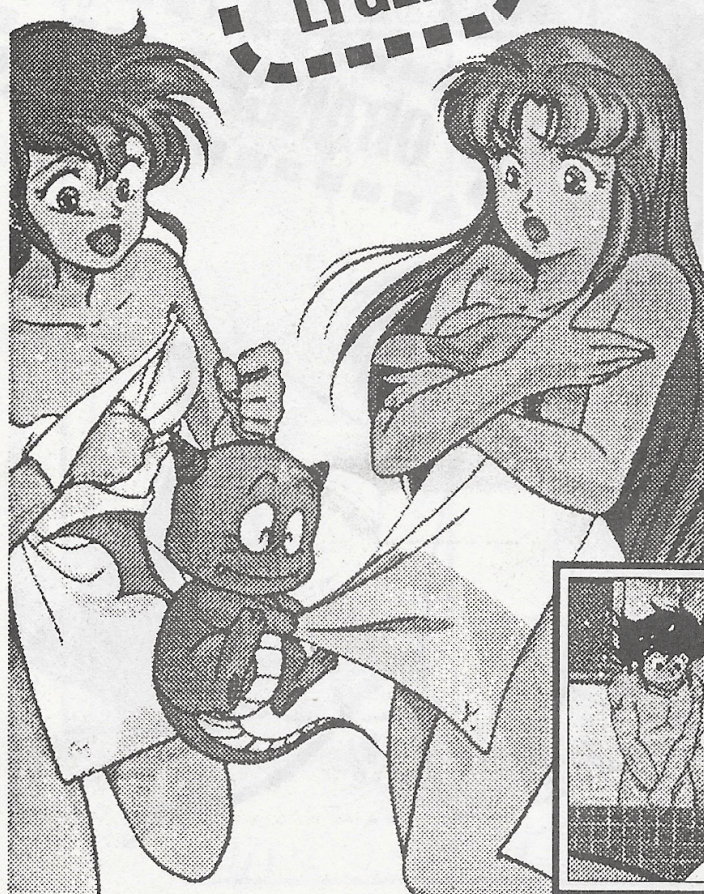
ANIME

S H O W E R

Special



LYGER

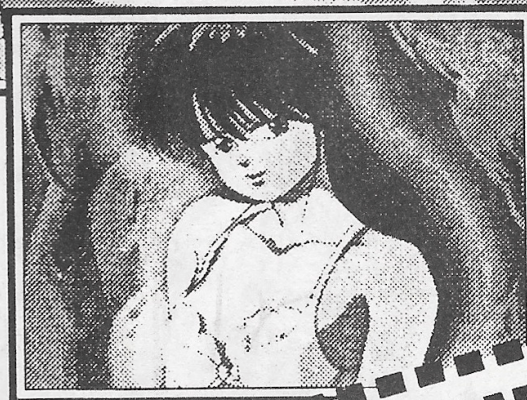
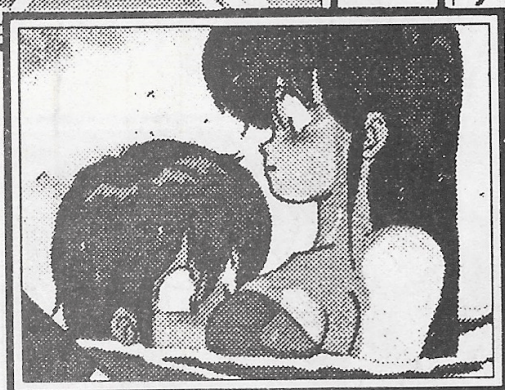


ANIME

ANIME

S H O W E R

Special



ORANGE ROAD

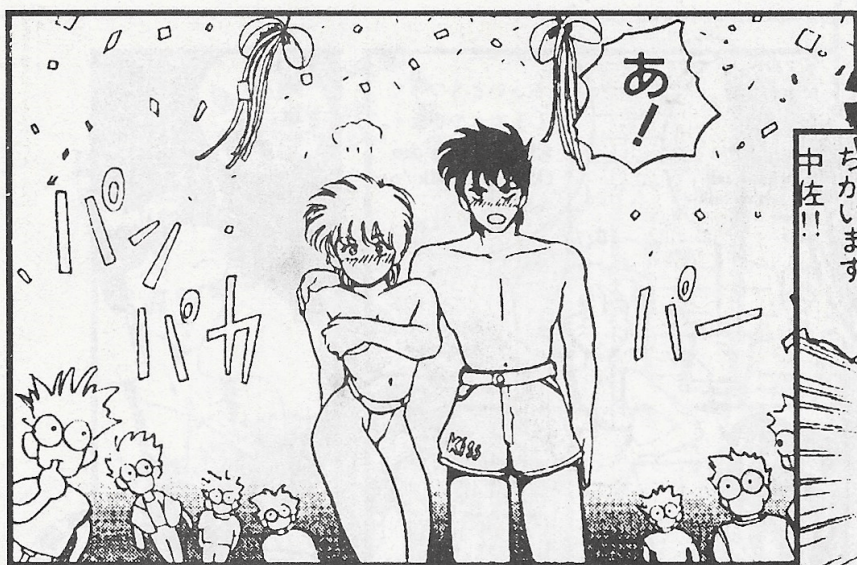


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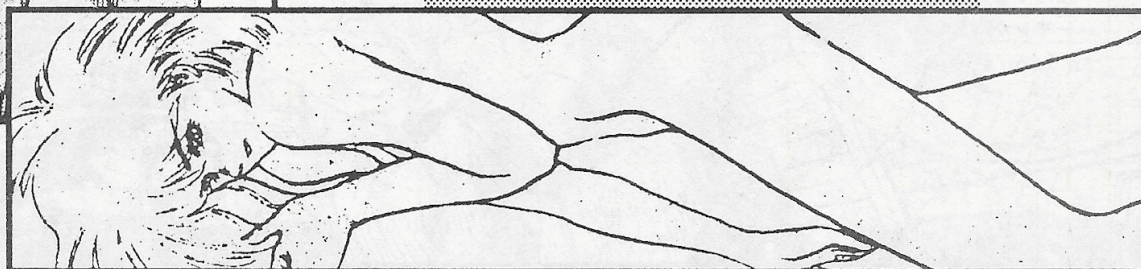
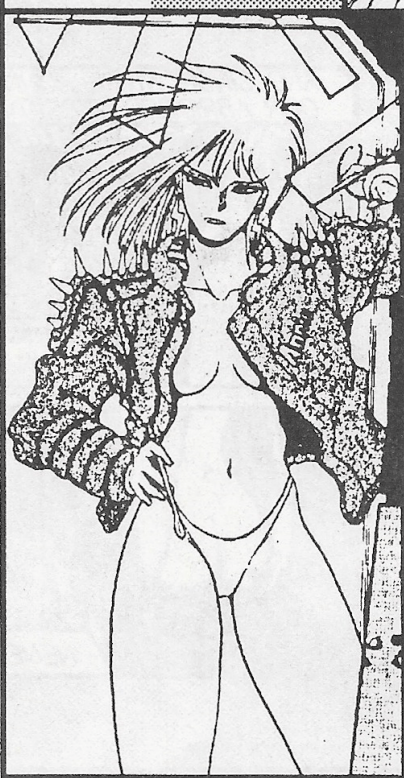
S H O W E R

Special

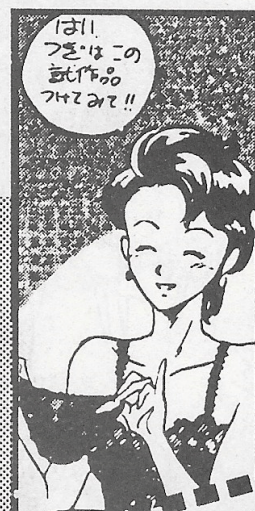
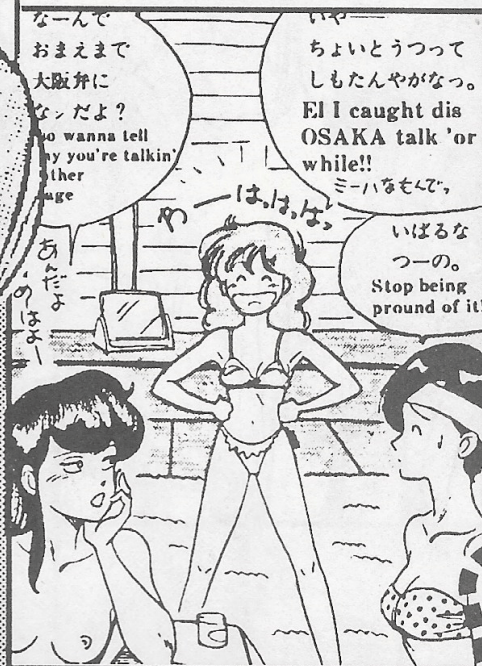
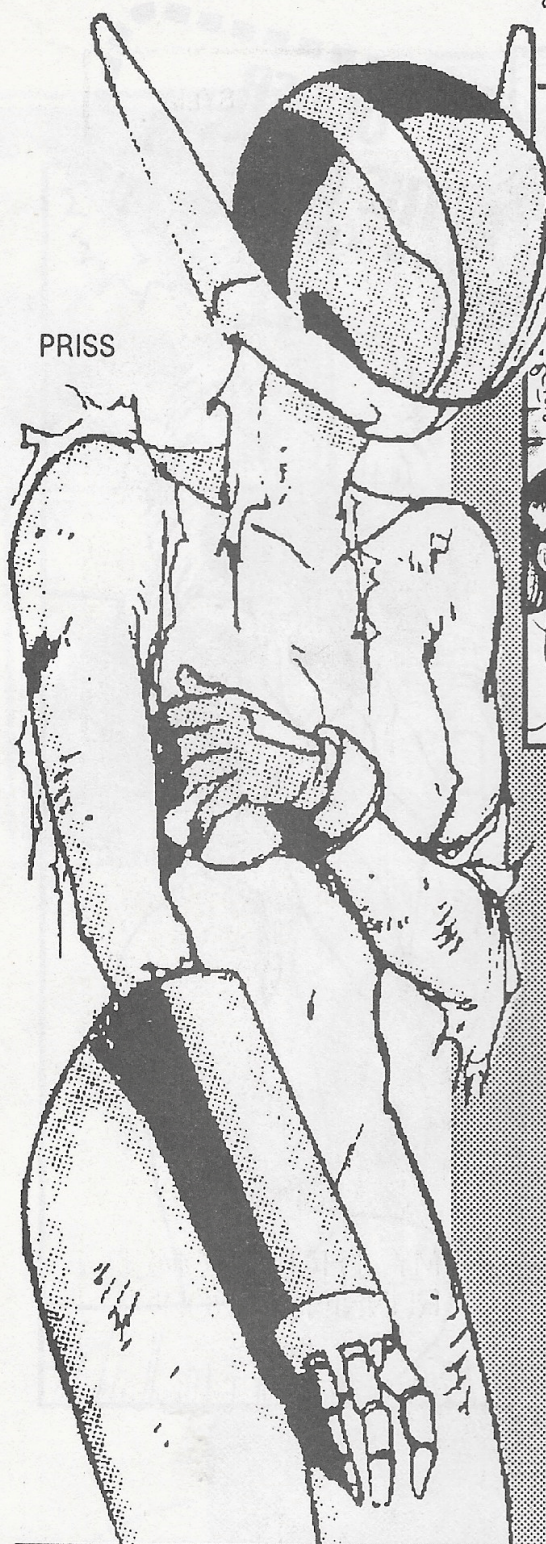


UNDER
THE GUNDAM

中佐!!
ちかいます

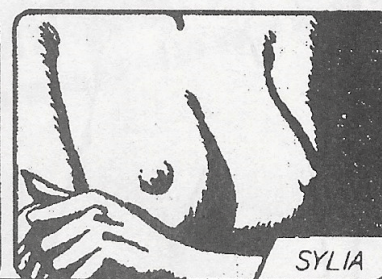
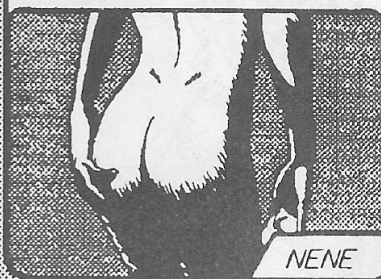
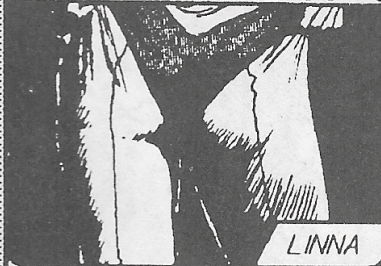


MANGA



AD. POLICE
25:00

AND SINCE WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF PAGES, HERE'S
OUR ABRIDGED VERSION OF THEM GETTING READY.



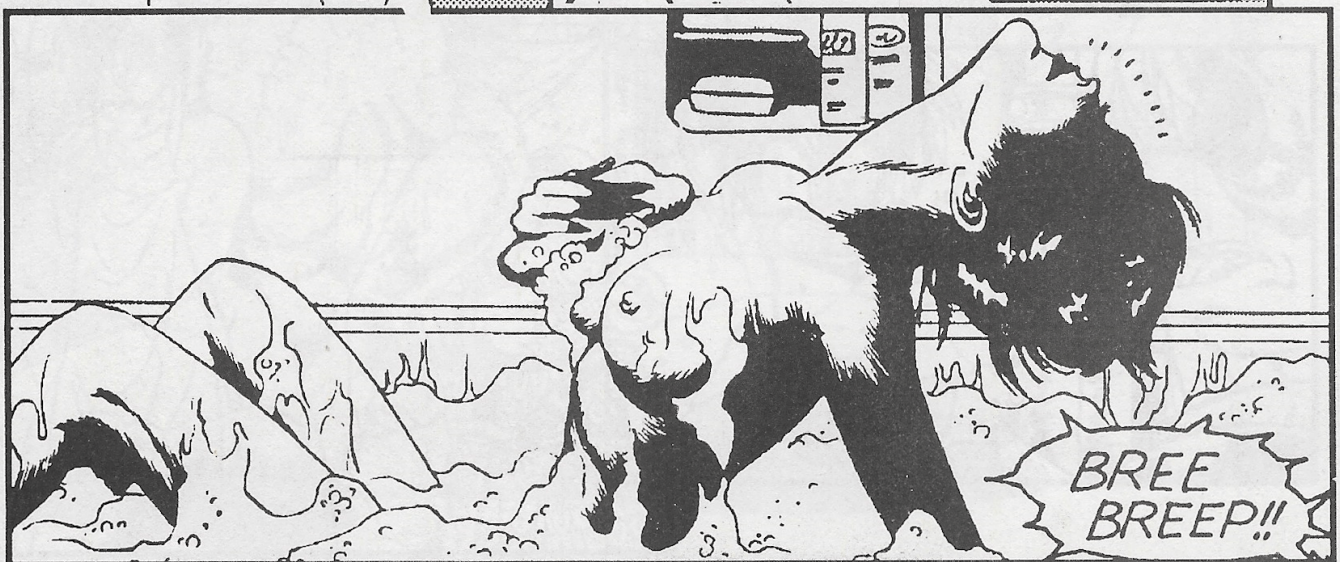
AD. POLICE
25:00

SYLIA

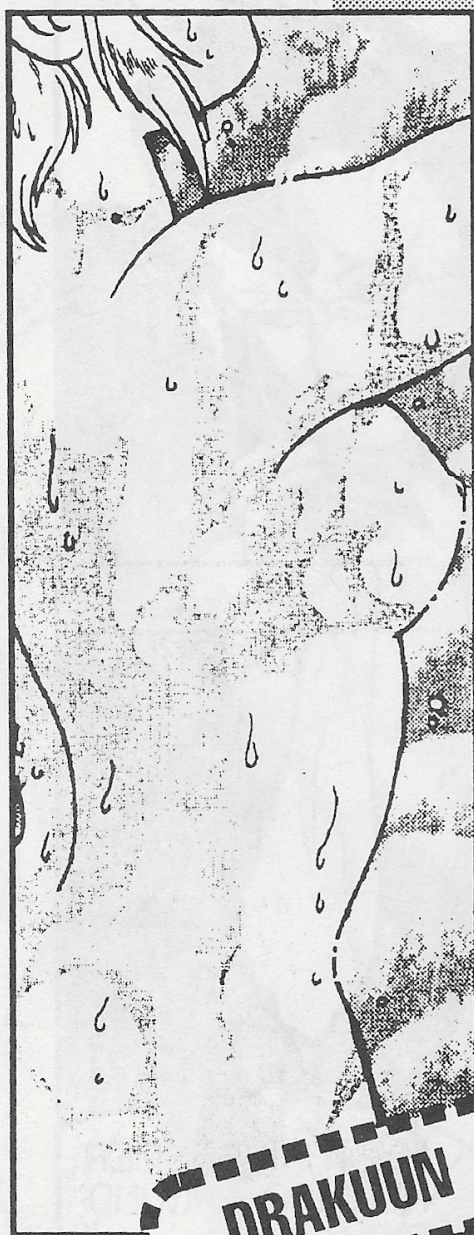
大阪に
出張や
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sent to
OSAKA!

NENE

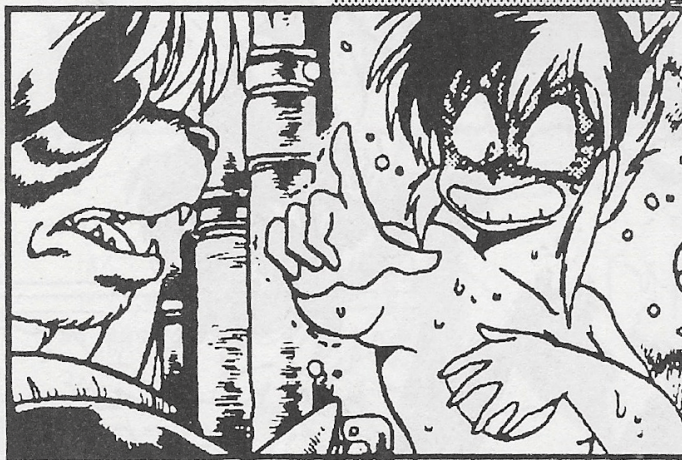
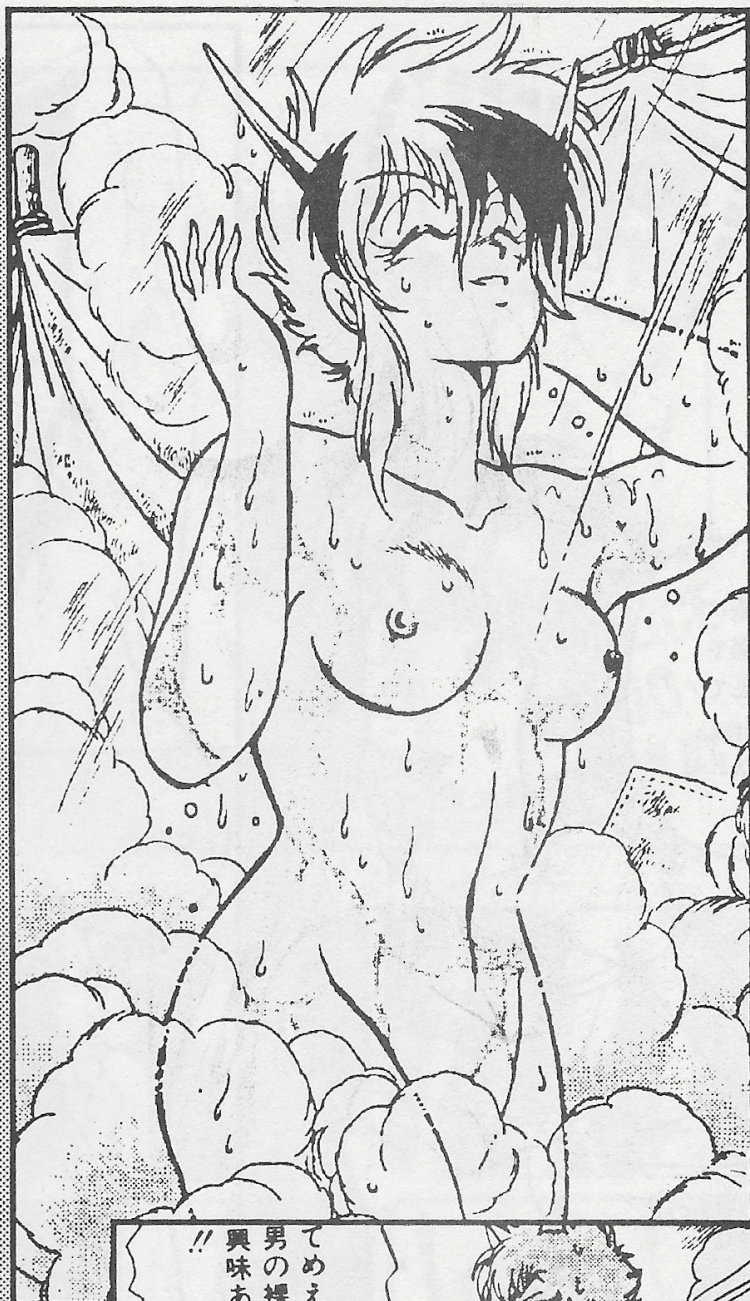
MY THAT BOOMER
RUNNING AROUND
RIGHT NOW...



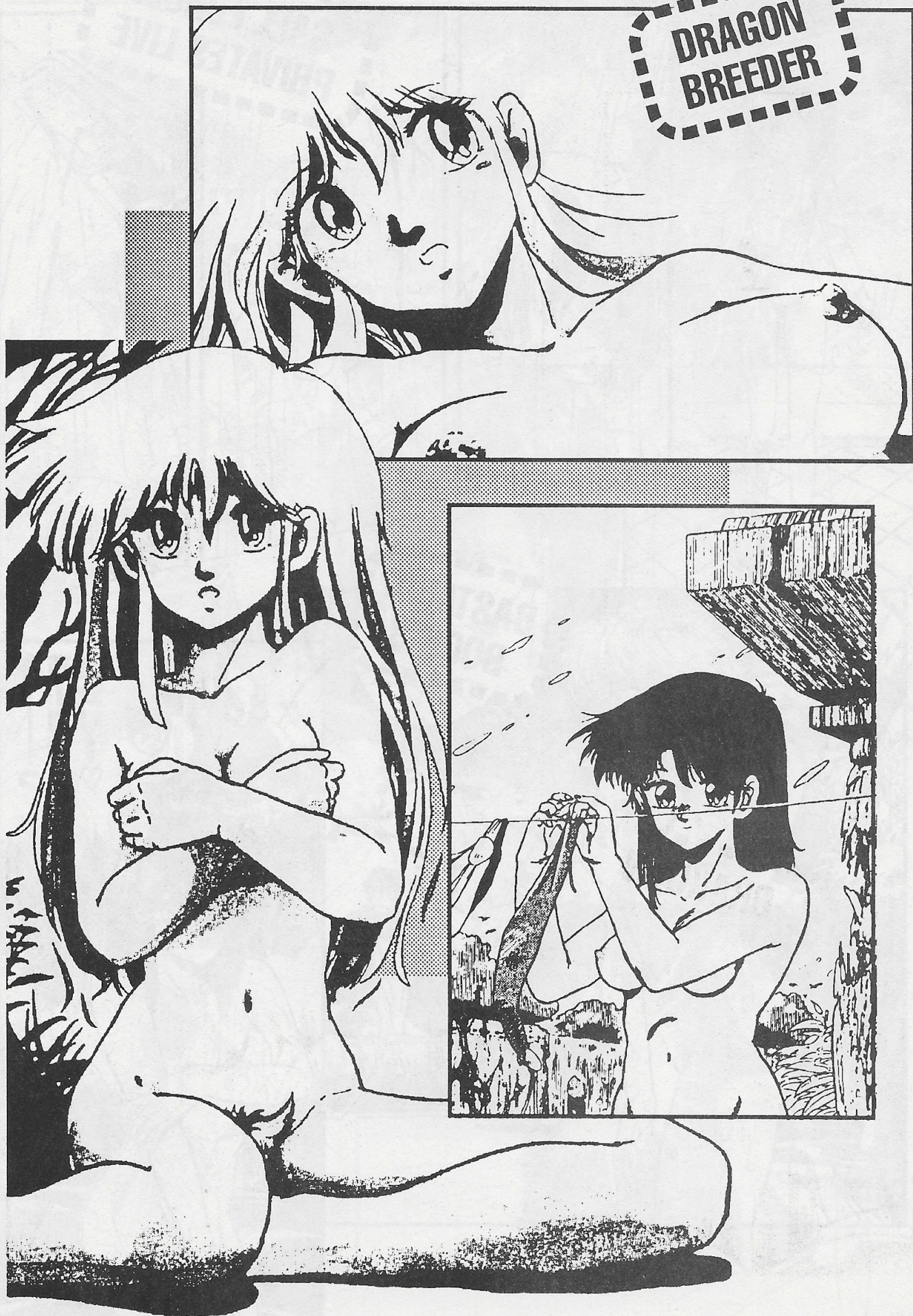
MANGA



DRAKUUN

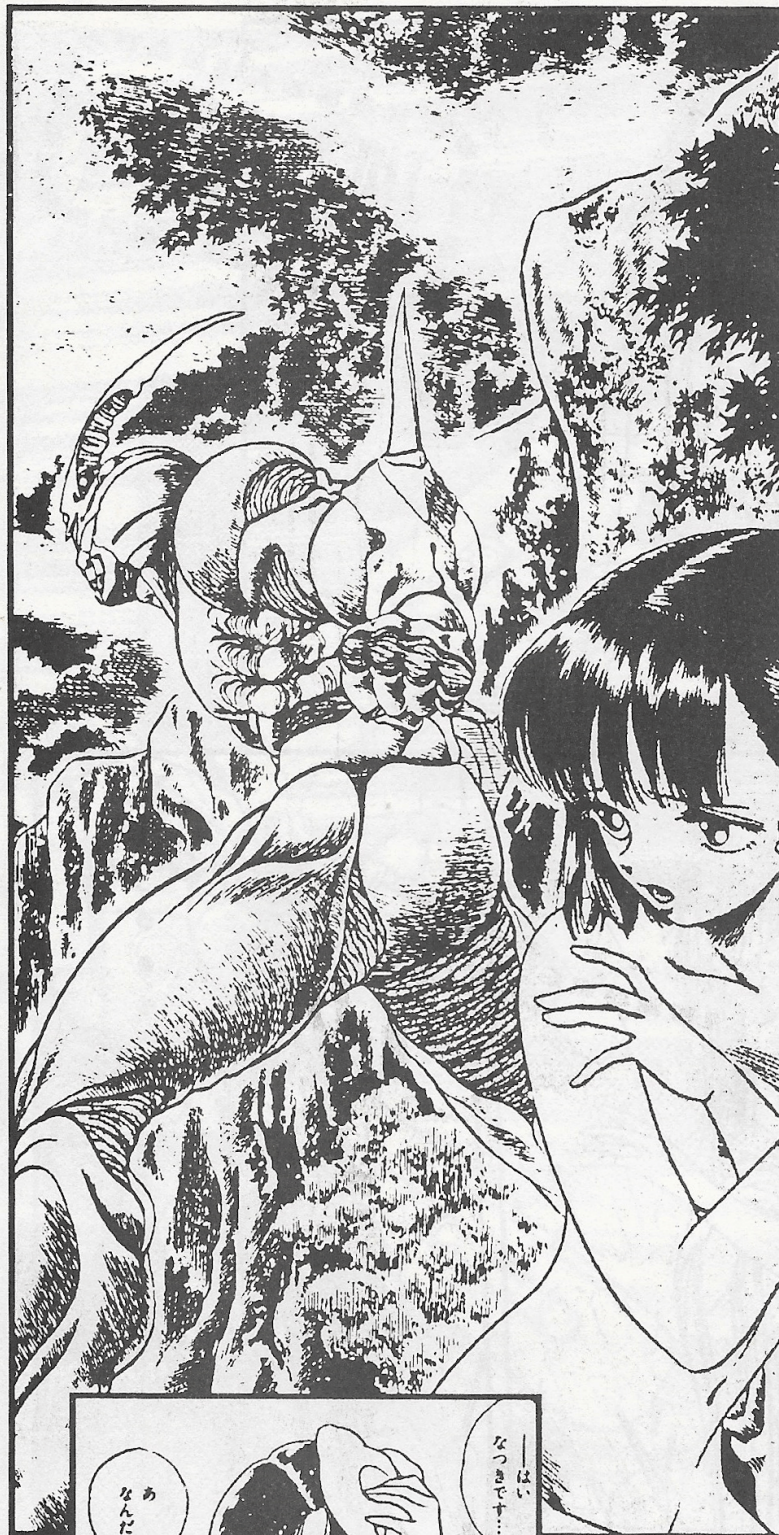


DRAGON
BREEDER

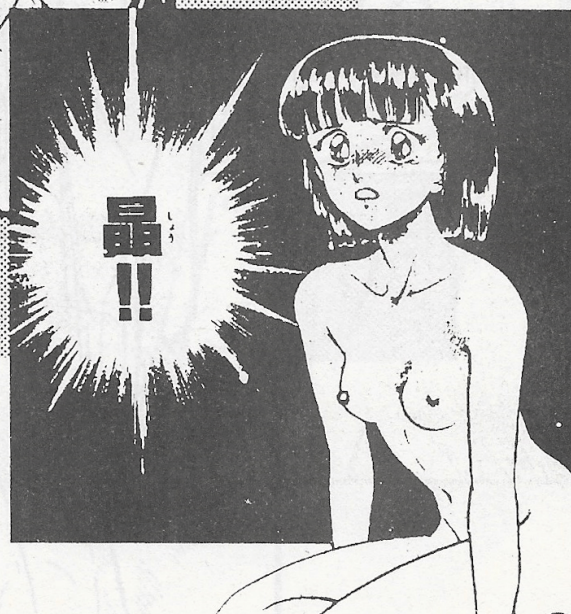


MANGA

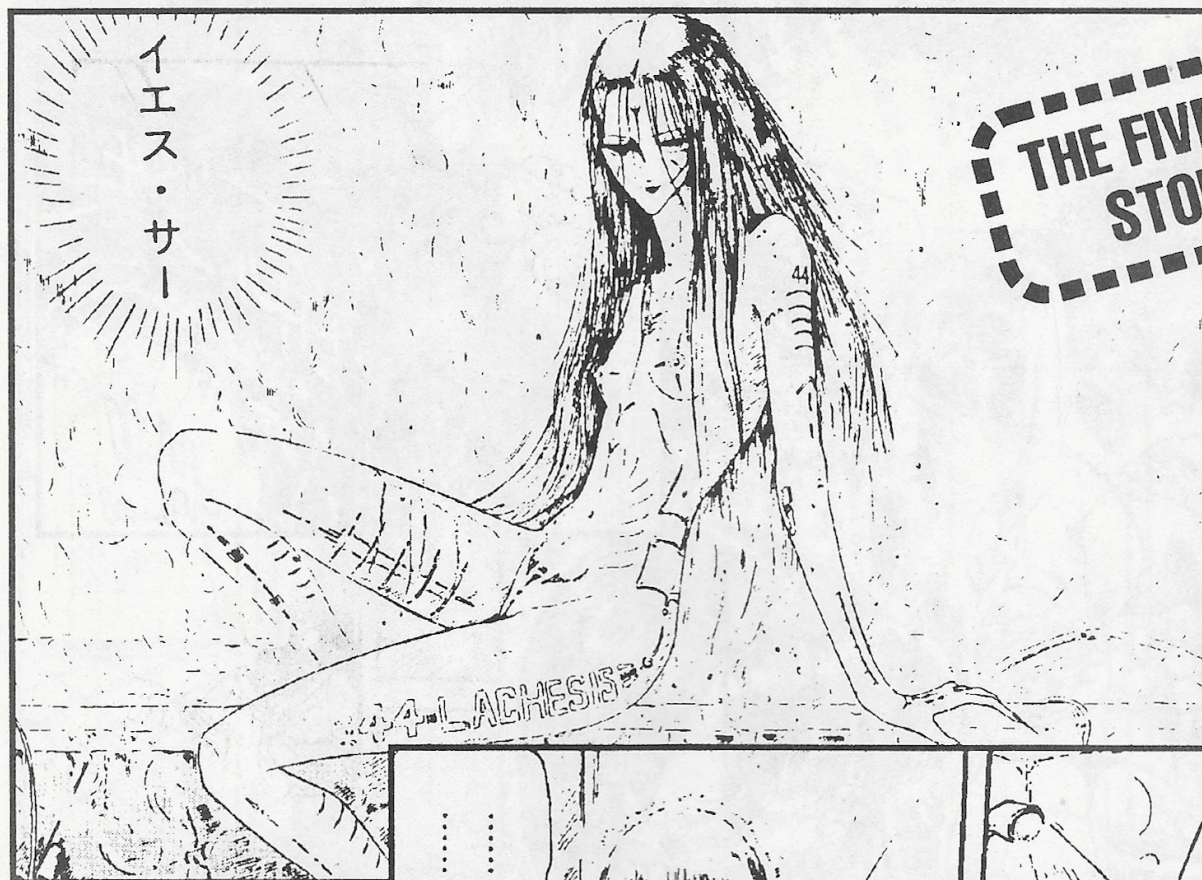




GUYVER
BOOK 1&5



MANGA



No, ladies and gentlemen, this is NOT a girl! Amaterasu no Mikado (Ladioss Sopp), the principal character of *Five Star Stories*, looks very... feminine. To the point that he is often mistaken for a woman and that his doubles often are women!

M.O.



.....
ONE MAN, TWO PATHS





ANIME

S H O W E R

Calendar

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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APRIL

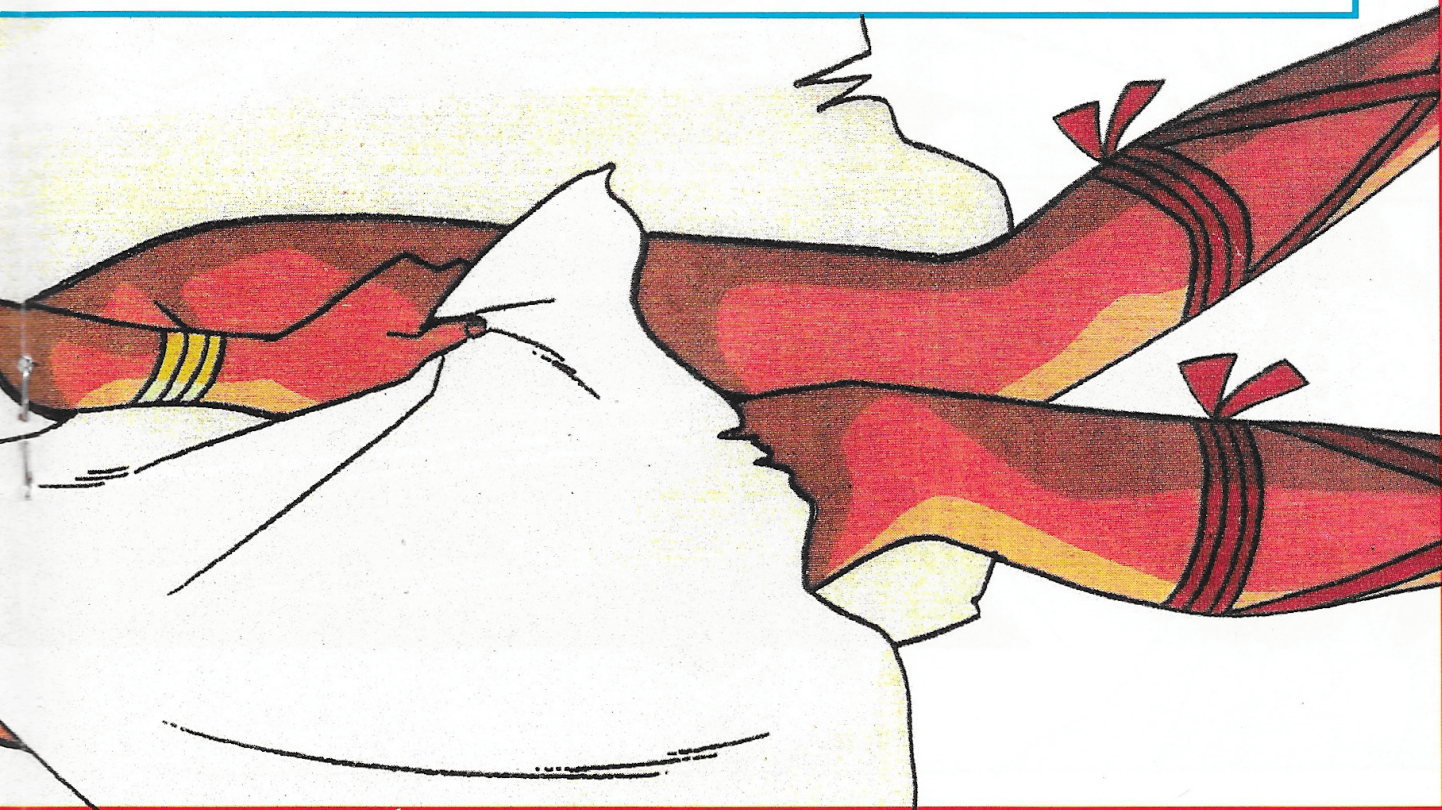
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17 18 19 20 21 22 23
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JULY

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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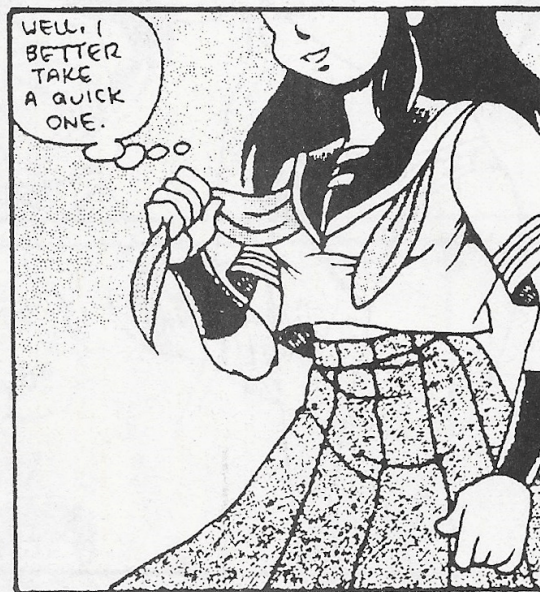
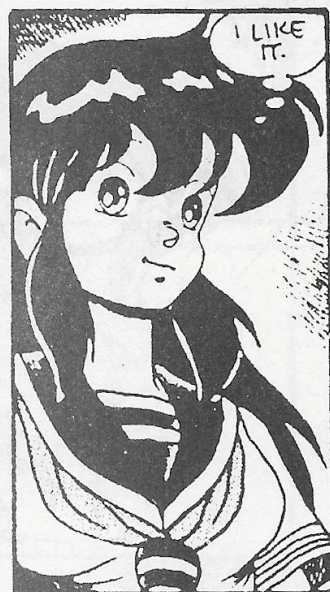
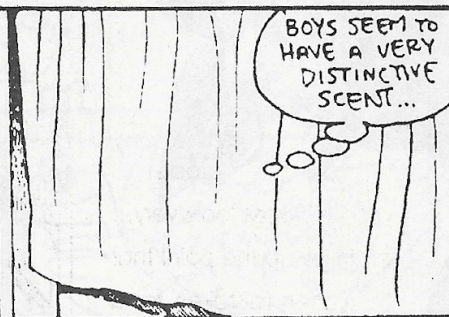
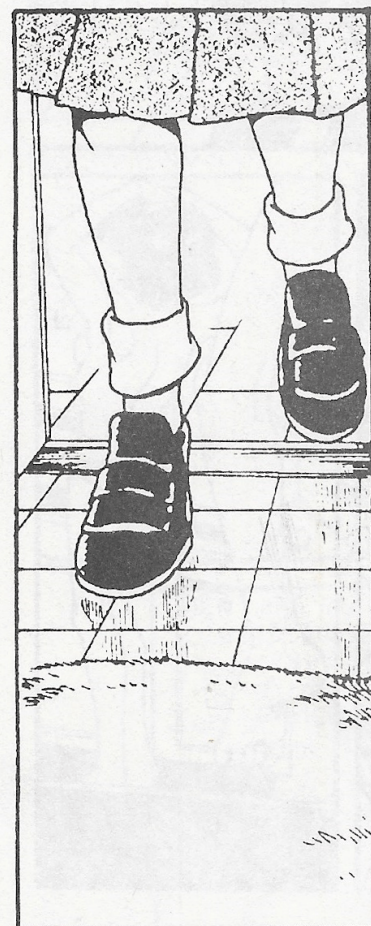
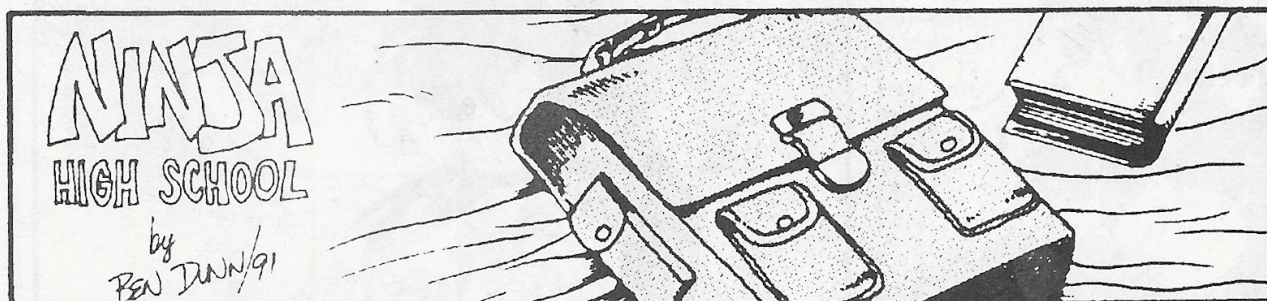


by Jim ELDRED and Jonathon JARRARD. Issue 1 (of 6) Available MARCH 1992
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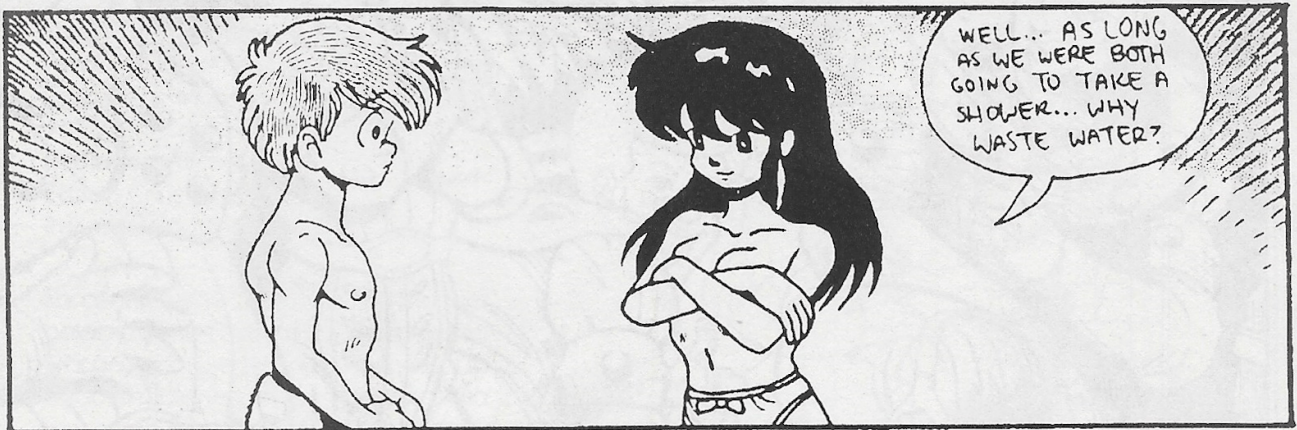
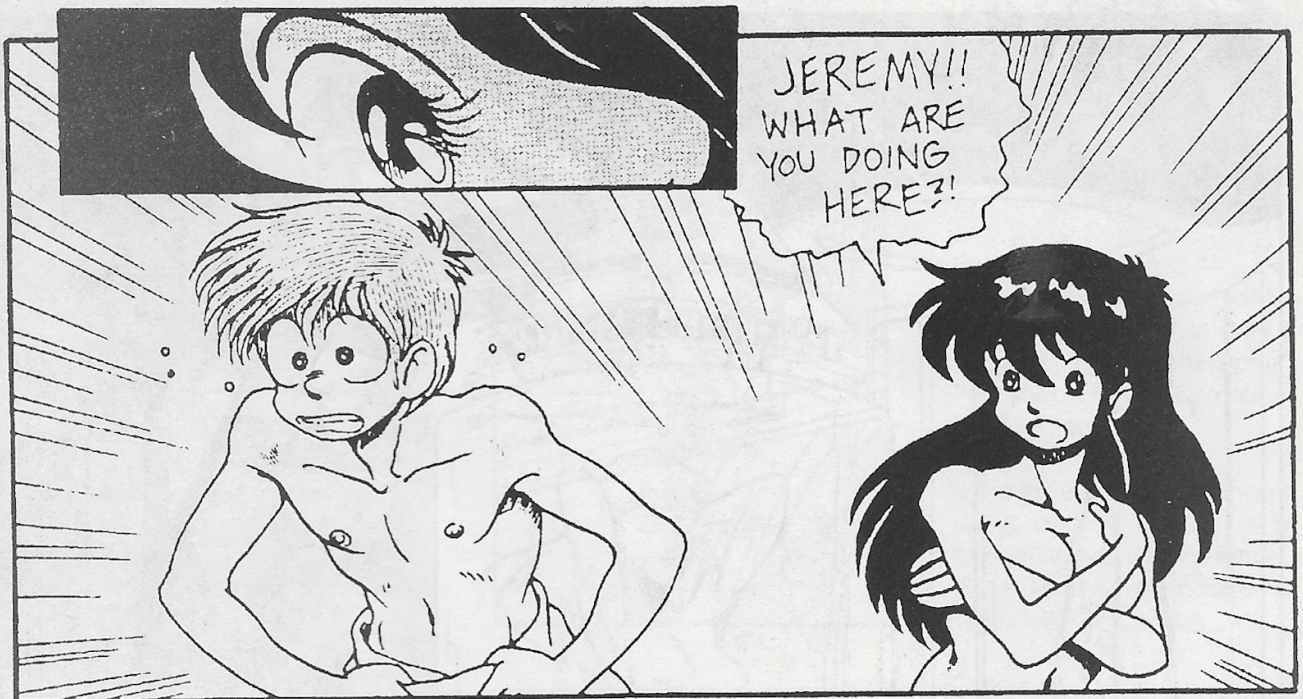
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VOTOMS is the story of a fugitive robot pilot, Chirico Cuvie, who is caught up in a complex military scandal and pursued by various factions across the war-torn Astragus Galaxy. Over time, Chirico allies himself and falls in love with PROTO-1, the female Perfect Soldier (genetically-created supersoldier) who was the subject of the scandal itself. Their battle escalates to decide the future of their entire galaxy when Chirico discovers himself linked to the Godlike wiseman computer and threatens to dominate his pursuers!

In this scene from Episode 6, Chirico and his companions, Vanilla, Coconna, and Goro, have stolen police uniforms and creep through an enemy installation, accidentally passing a certain genetically-created supersoldier partaking in a revitalizing energy bath. While the others ponder their predicament, Vanilla characteristically enjoys the view...



BROID ブロイド

Story: Tim Eldred
Art: Tim Eldred and Steve Krueger
Frequency: Monthly — 4 issues published in 1990, 4 more published in 1991 under the title "Shatterpoint"
Publisher: Eternity Comics
Editor: Chris Ulm

Broid is the story of one man's stand against tyranny in a crumbling world of the future. Here, the one man takes a well-deserved break...

Tim Eldred, writer and artist, who has worked on such comic titles as LENS MAN, CAPTAIN HARLOCK, and ROBOTECH for Eternity Comics, will debut his new series CYBERSUIT ARKADYNE in 1992 in an exclusive publishing arrangement with Ianus Publications.

CHASER PLATOON



Story: Tim Eldred
Art: Tim Eldred and Steve Krueger
Frequency: Monthly (6 issues released 1991)
Publisher: Aircel Comics
Editor: Chris Ulm
Price: \$2.25 US/ \$2.70 Can

For centuries the Gaiharan and Saringer galactic armies have waged a territorial war and occupied planet after planet to establish colonies for their people. With war came field experiments. In CHASER PLATOON, Golon Herow of the Iron Infantry and Ellen Reddix of Covert Section find themselves on opposite sides of a complex Gaiharan operation that could change the face of the entire war.

NOTE: CHASER PLATOON was heavily inspired by ARMORED TROOPER VOTOMS (your eyes do not deceive you). Here, we learn why Ellen's Covert Section isn't particularly worried about proclaiming itself with prominent insignia...



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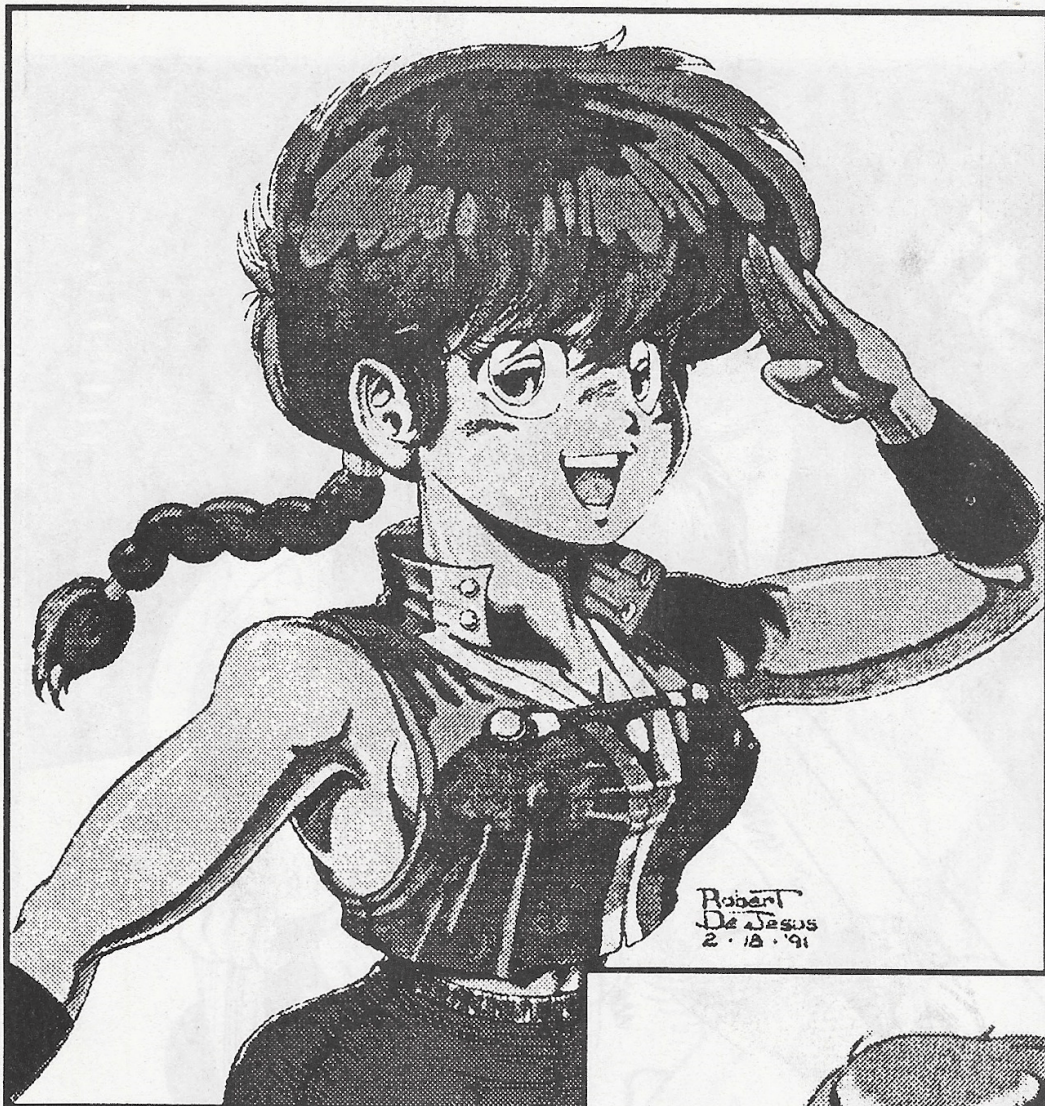


Shasti.

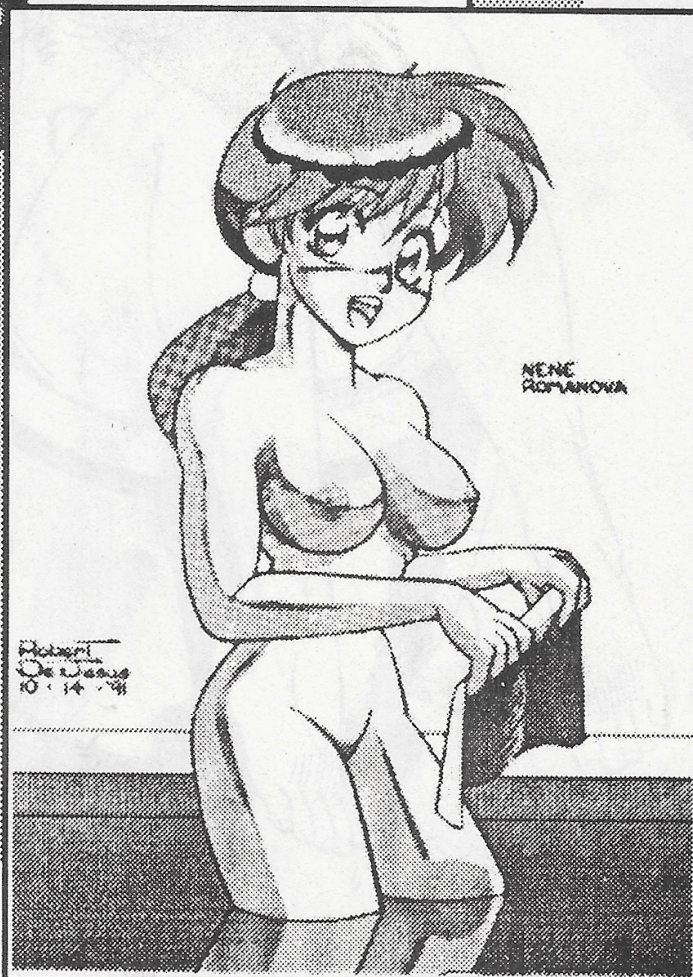


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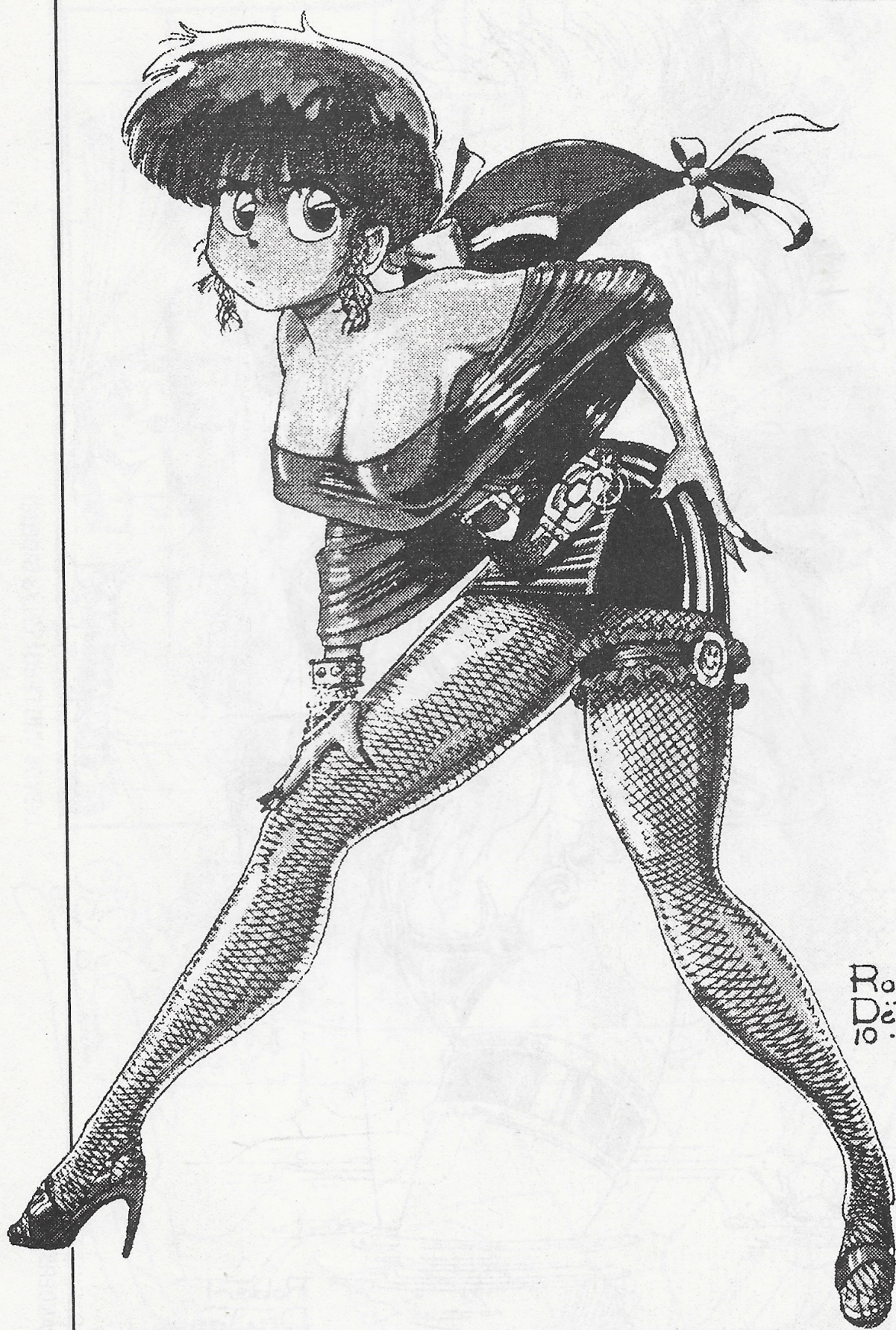
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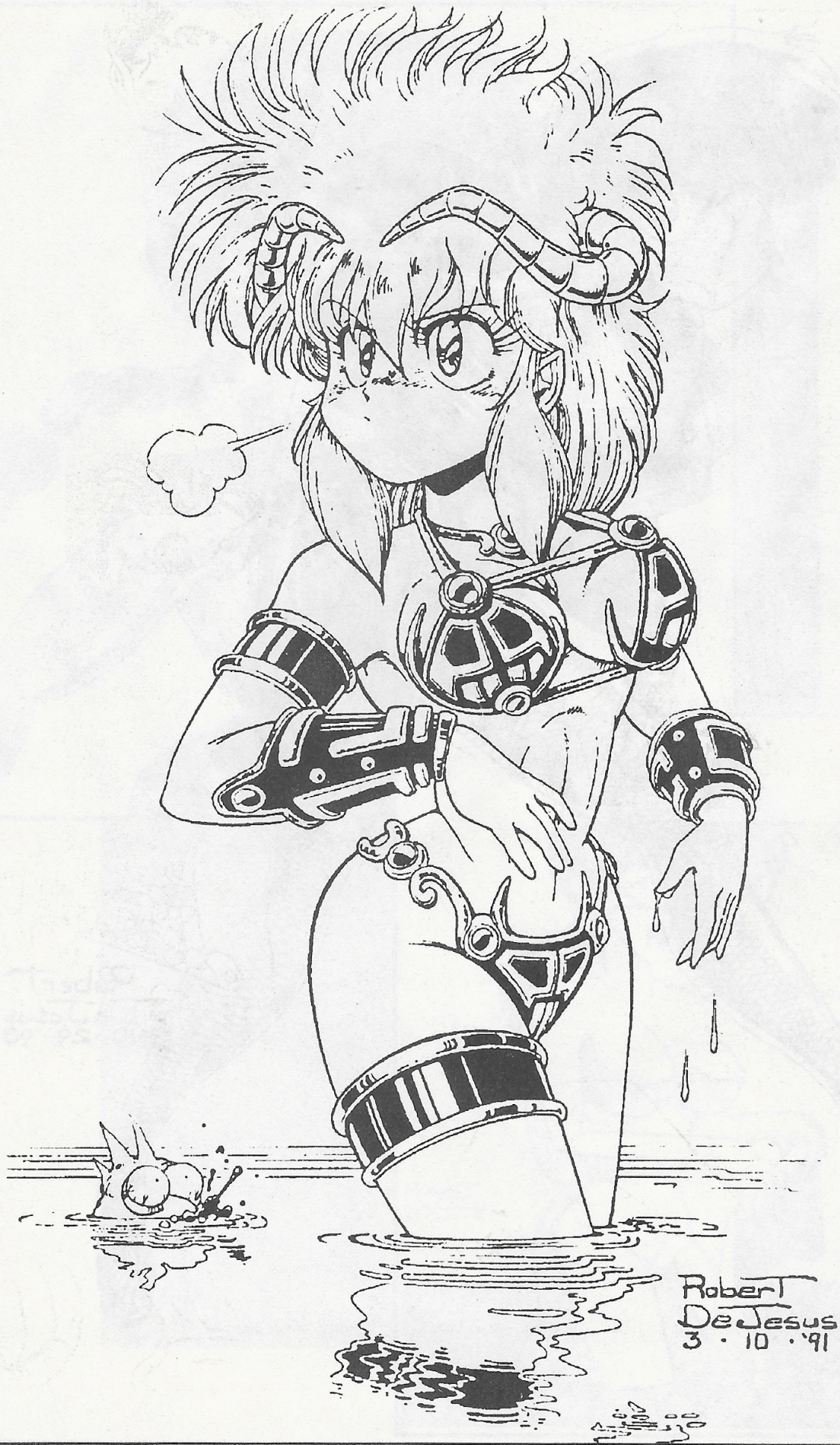


NENE ROMANOVA



NENE ROMANOVA (BUBBLEGUM CRISIS)





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TABADA AND LEROY (STAR RIDERS)

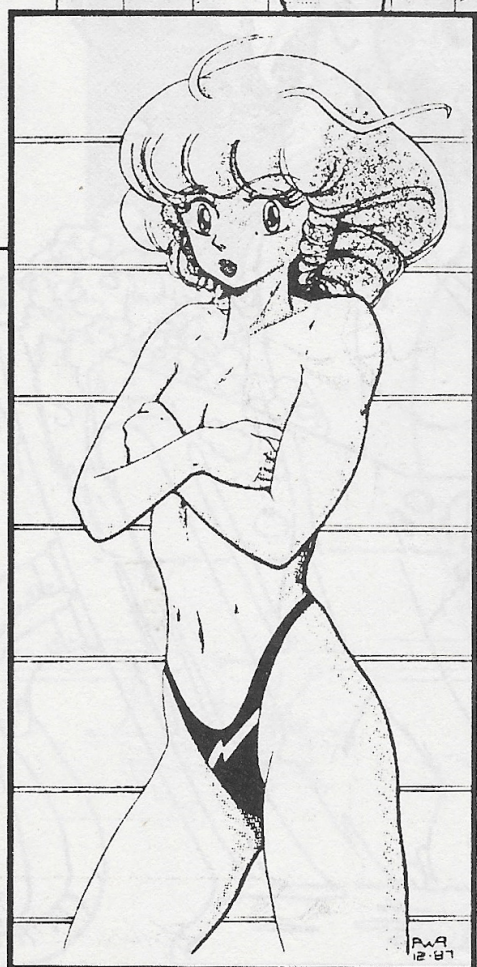


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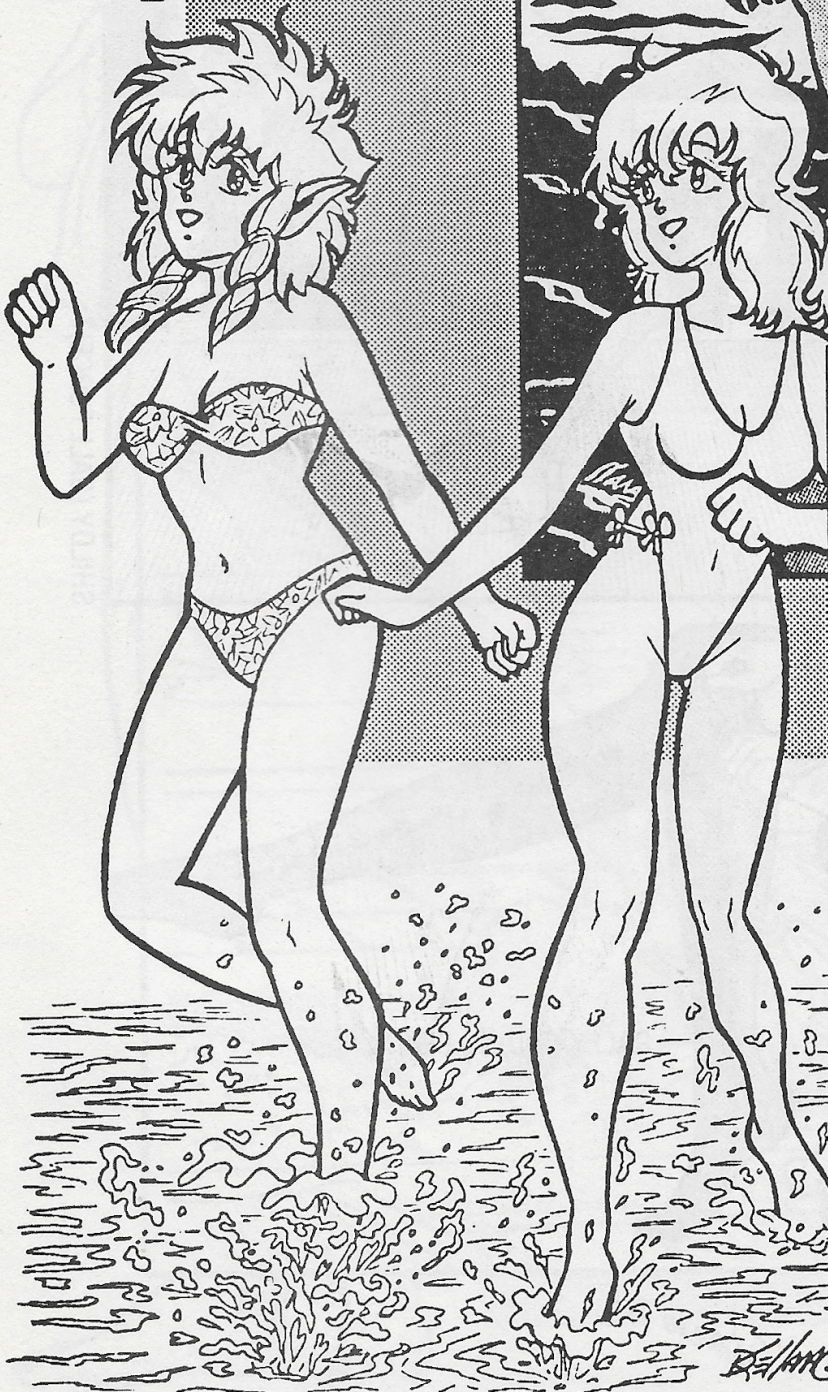


CREAMY MAMI

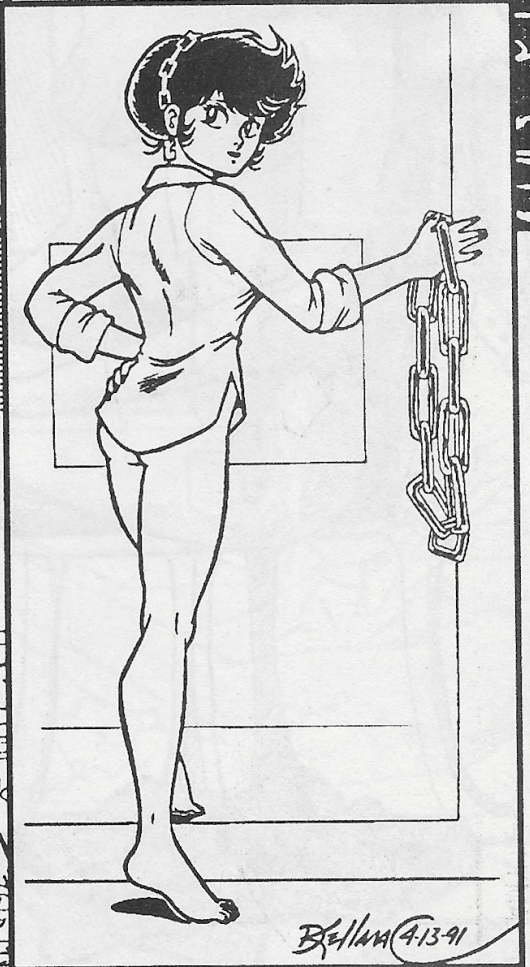


MINMAY

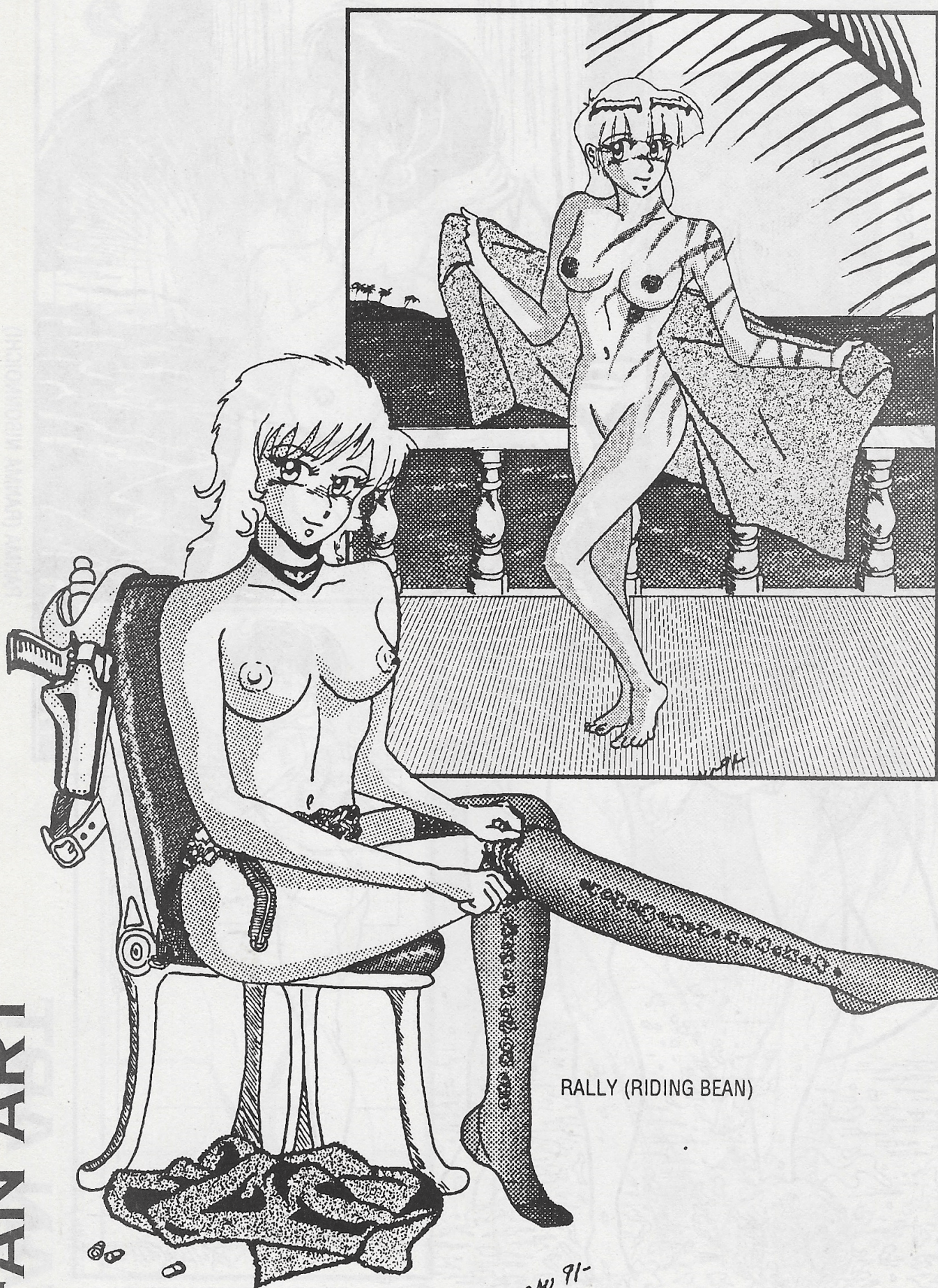
ICZER-1 & NAGISSA



RANMA (RANMA NIBONNOICHI)



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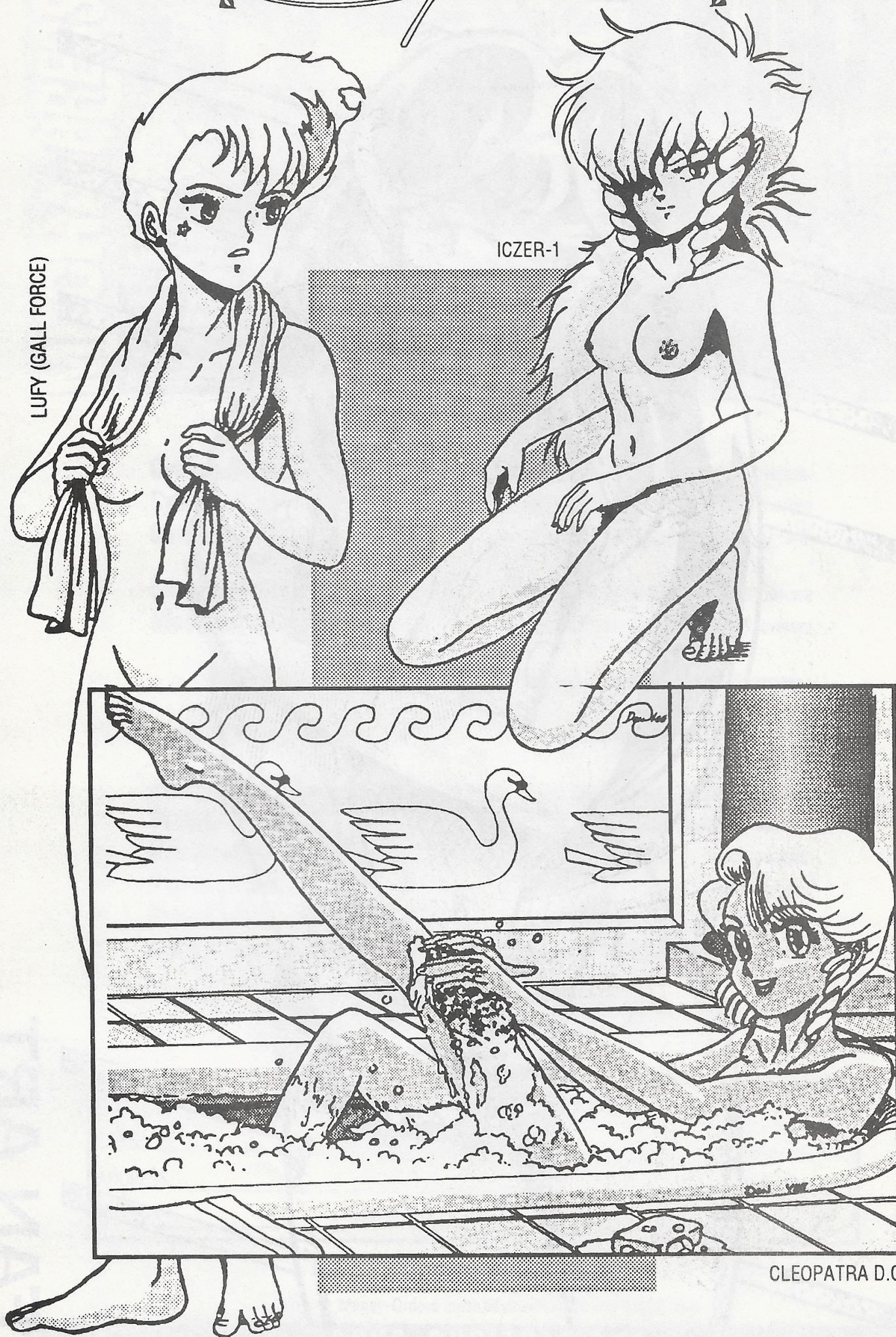
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RALLY (RIDING BEAN)

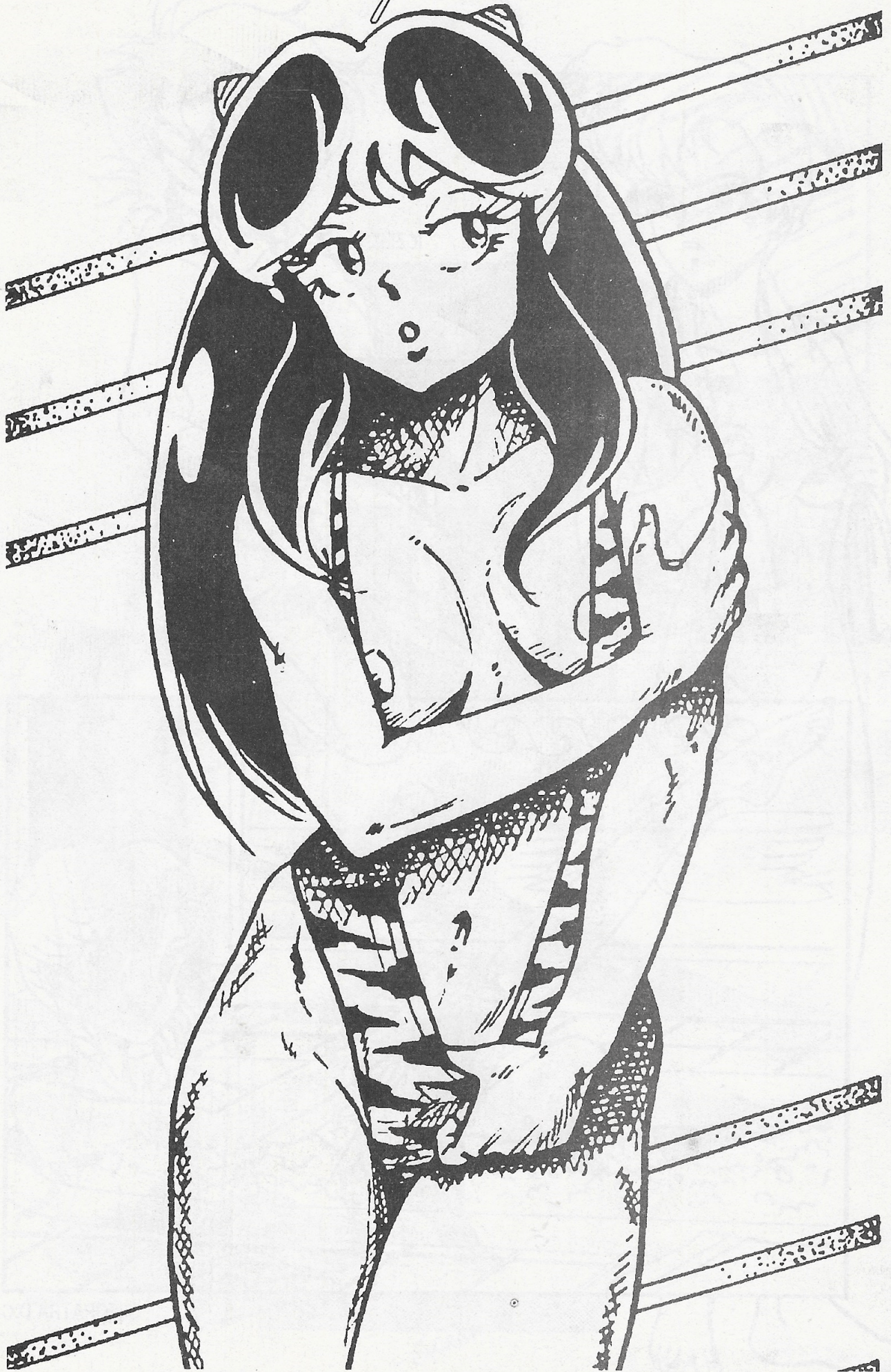
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LUFY (GALL FORCE)

ICZER-1



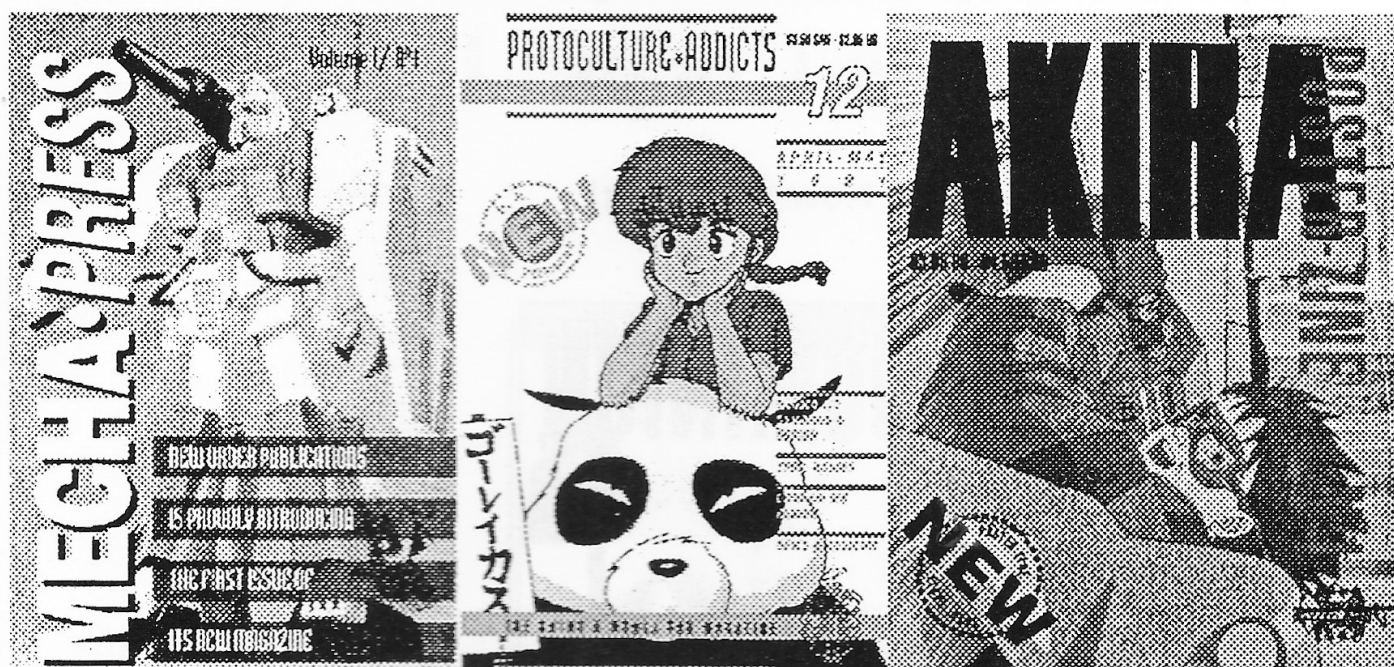
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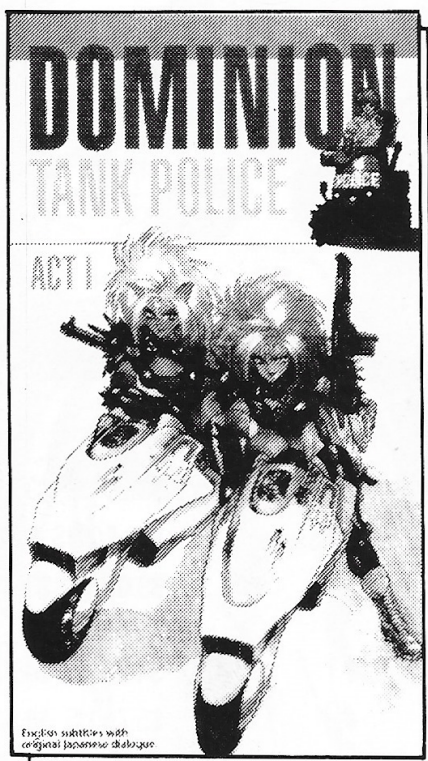
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